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Vol 1 Issue 5

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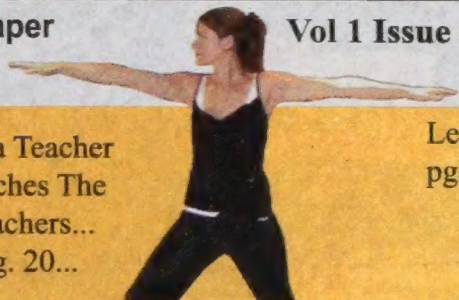
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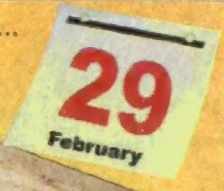
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One Long Journey: The Desk Comes Home!

"Our first reporter was a young guy who painted houses, drove bus, and cleaned the local jail!"

Stephen Patrick
Editor

Sharon Lawrence can't stop laughing at how crazy that year in the Yukon Territories was. "It's either that, or you'd have to cry at how crazy that year really was!" Sharon, Haliburton resident and widow of famed Naturalist and Author R.D. Lawrence died in November of 2003. Over the past four years Sharon has been instrumental in the drive to establish the R.D. Lawrence Place as a part of the Minden Hills Cultural Centre. R.D. Lawrence Place will formally open this spring and will be an "active centre, inviting school children and tourists alike to learn more about nature and explore the world around them." It will also hold a permanent collection of Lawrence's papers and, of course, the over 30 novels and scientific works he published during his lifetime.

Sharon and Ron Lawrence moved to Haliburton permanently in the early 1980s, where they spent two decades helping to rehabilitate injured wildlife, particularly wolves. Ron also kept up his prodigious writing pace, publishing his Natural History of Canada among many other books, as well as being instrumental in the establishment of the Wolf Centre at the Haliburton Forest and Wildlife. After his death Minden Hills Cultural Centre's Writer in Residence, Pauline Johnson, suggested to Sharon that she donate Ron's papers to the Centre. Then, with the determined help of the Centre's Director, Dianne Graham, the trio proceeded to gather the necessary support and funding for what became R.D. Lawrence Place. The actual building is itself a testament to sustainability: it was constructed as a project of Fleming College, Haliburton Campus', Sustainable Building and Design Construction course. There can be no doubt that Ron would have been delighted with this practical project, disdainful as he was of maudlin tributes to the dear departed.

But back to that crazy year in the Yukon! "We moved to Watson Lake, Yukon Territories because I got a job teaching kindergarten to native children, and because Ron had such fond memories of his last stint in the North in the late 1950s. The first thing Ron noticed when we arrived was that there was no newspaper in Watson Lake, so of course he started one. We called it The Signpost after Watson Lake's Sign Post Forest, and our first reporter was a young guy who painted houses, drove bus, and cleaned the local jail!"

Desk cont'd... pg. 12...

Dianne Graham and Sharon Lawrence

Devolin Announces \$564,000 Towards Economic Development for the County

"We need to continue to work towards getting our voices heard."
MP Barry Devolin

Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock MP Barry Devolin made a stop in Haliburton to announce a Government of Canada investment of \$564,000 for the Haliburton County Development Corporations' (HCDC) Community Futures program. The monies are part of the recent renewal of the Eastern Ontario Development Program for one year worth \$10 million.

The stop was Devolin's third stop of a funding announcement tour for the Eastern Ontario Development Program renewal. Devolin made announcements at the South Lake Community Futures Development Corporation in Keswick, as well as the Kawartha Lakes Community Futures Development Corporation in Lindsay.

Devolin said the grant was a big step not only for Eastern Ontario but for the County of Haliburton for encouraging and attracting businesses and small business owners. With funding going across rural and Eastern Ontario, Devolin hopes that the funds will lead to gradual business development.

Money cont'd... pg. 2...



Winter Fun Pics

See pg. 24...

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Funding Great News For Local Business

... from pg. 1



MP Barry Devolin presents County Warden Eleanor Harrison with the cheque.

For Devolin, Community Futures Development Corporations have played an essential role already in the development of new businesses in rural Eastern Ontario; from small to large contributions.

Members of the Board of the HCDC were ecstatic with the announcement of the renewed funding. "It's just wonderful," said an elated Dale Walker, past chair of the Board of Directors for the HCDC, who was thrilled with the early announcement of the funding. "These announcements often come with little time left to tell the business owners about the money that is available. This now gives us a full year to get the word out," said Walker.

One portion of the funding that was highlighted by Devolin was for Regional Projects which allows for government funding for larger industries that are looking at developing in certain areas of Eastern Ontario. A recent example of the benefits of this funding was the development of the Kellogg's plant in Belleville.

According to Jim Blake, Community Economic Development Officer for the HCDC, the Haliburton team is currently researching a proposal for the special funding, but they want to make sure that it benefits surrounding communities as well. "The proposal is a long time away," said Blake, "and we're working with the other regions throughout the area."

For Devolin, the Eastern Ontario Development Program has been something he has strived to maintain throughout his term, crediting previous MP John O'Reilly with the early development of this program.

This announcement comes on the wake of some recent controversy regarding provincial complaints about the lack of federal funding for business development. Devolin stated that there has been a lot of work done to make the funding that goes to specific Provincial projects to be based on a per capita basis of funding.

However, one of the things that have been leading to this tension is the smaller voices struggling to be heard at the larger Federal level. "Country people are quiet and polite," suggested Devolin, "we need to continue to work towards getting our voices heard."

Highlands East Capital Purchases Get the Nod.....

Liz Danielsen
Staff Reporter

During their budget deliberations, the Highlands East Council has been mulling over some pretty major decisions over the past month. Last Thursday they finally put a substantial portion of their 2008 budget to a vote.

Council's first big ticket item under the microscope was whether they should proceed with the purchase of new trucks for the Fire Department. Much of the department's equipment is outdated and the underwriters have made recommendations to make replacements. This recommendation, along with the question that has loomed for some time about whether to keep all of the fire halls open, has made the decision on a \$750 thousand dollar purchase extremely difficult. And that doesn't include interest. Council is standing strong on their commitment to keep the fire halls open, so they were able to move forward finally with a decision on purchasing equipment. CAO Sharon Stoughton-Craig says the mill rates would be prohibitive if the purchase was made outright, so Council has been looking at various financing options. Stoughton-Craig confirmed that the municipality's auditors feel they can easily carry the debt load. Fire Chief Bill Wingrove, who has presented a number of financing options in the past, provided Council with a 10 year amortizing debenture schedule for financing through Infrastructure Ontario. Council all agreed that this was a schedule they could live with, and voiced their commitment to try to pay the debt off as quickly as possible with an actual goal of 7 years should revenues be sufficient to make additional payments.

A resolution was carried unanimously to approve tendering for four new fire trucks (two tankers and two pumpers). The final purchase is subject to financing approval from Infrastructure Ontario, but that sounds like a cautionary measure only. Even though Council has decided to move forward with the purchase, it will still be months before the Municipality will actually get the trucks.

The Fire Department's budget was reviewed in detail and their overall operating budget has been reduced slightly from last year. Stoughton-Craig raised a concern about the Fire Chief's hours. To date, the Municipality has budgeted for 20 hours a week for this position. However, a considerable number of overtime hours have accumulated since Wingrove was appointed. The Fire Chief suggested that his hours were averaging 30 hours a week. After a brief discussion, Council passed a resolution approving a 30 hour work week. The resolution made the increase retroactive to November 13th, the date of Wingrove's appointment, to cover the accumulated overtime.

Next up was the Barry Dunford, Roads Superintendent, with his department's budget, and once again, capital purchases headed the discussion. Council's major decision at this point was whether to proceed with the purchase of a new tandem truck equipped with a box and plow and a new four wheel drive 1/2 ton truck. The use of municipal vehicles by staff as well as the pros and cons of both purchases were covered in detail and Council agreed by resolution to proceed with the purchases by debenture. These purchases are also subject to financing approvals. Council also authorized the tendering of all furnace and fuel oils to ensure best rates for the year.

Some numbers still need a little massaging to finalize the overall budget for 2008. While estimated costs are included in the budget, the results of numerous tenders for supply of material and services are still unknown. As well as various costs to make required maintenance upgrades on buildings or facilities and scheduled road repairs, and the purchase of computers and software for the administration, Council recognized a 3% increase in wages across the board. At present the overall budget for Highlands East is estimated at 5.3 million dollars with revenues of 1.47 million dollars. Residents might have had to hold onto their hats when hearing some of the original estimated increases on their tax notices, but thanks to a lot of hard work by Council and staff, this represents an approximate 4.22 percent increase in residential taxes for the year.

Another One Bites the Dust.....

The Highlands East Council meeting on Thursday was scheduled primarily for review of their 2008 budget and final approval of capital purchases. The official notice of the meeting outlining items to be discussed did indicate there would be a closed session to discuss personnel matters. However, when the minutes were distributed one resolution came as a surprise. Council's discussion during their closed session appears to have been about their Chief Building Official, Marie Schutt. According to the resolution passed by Council, Schutt's position was terminated effective immediately with cause. The recorded vote taken at the time of the resolution indicates that this was not a unanimous decision, as Deputy Reeve Jim Mackie voted against the action. Despite the resolution already being carried and the fact that the meeting was about to be opened to the public, debate over the decision necessitated Council, in a somewhat unusual move, to return to their closed session for further discussion. Nevertheless, the outcome remained the same and no one has since been able to comment on the matter.

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Weather is susceptible to change.

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February 23, 2008

04 14 20 31 32 42

Bonus Number 18

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SUPER 7

February 22, 2008

10 12 14 15 28 31 45

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Moments in time

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

On Feb. 28, 1983, "M*A*S*H," the cynical situation comedy about doctors behind the front lines during the Korean War, airs its final episode after 11 seasons. The last episode drew 77 percent of the television viewing audience, the largest audience ever to watch a single TV show up to that time.

On Feb. 29, 1928, director and screenwriter William DeMille, brother of director Cecil B. DeMille, hires Beth Brown to write jokes for the film "Tenth Avenue." Brown was the first woman on record to work as a Hollywood comedy writer.

On March 1, 1961, President John F. Kennedy establishes the Peace Corps, which would send American men and women to foreign nations to assist in development efforts. Since 1961, more than 180,000 Americans have joined the Peace Corps, serving in 134 nations.

On March 2, 1904, Theodor Geisel, better known to the world as Dr. Seuss, author of such children's books as "The Cat in the Hat," is born in Springfield, Mass. Geisel's first book, "And to Think That I Saw It on Mulberry Street," was rejected by more than two dozen publishers before making it into print in 1937.

On March 3, 1931, President Herbert Hoover signs a congressional act making "The Star-Spangled Banner" the official national anthem of the United States. Francis Scott Key composed the lyrics to "The Star-Spangled Banner" in 1814.

On March 4, 1952, Ernest Hemingway completes his short novel "The Old Man and the Sea." He wrote his publisher the same day, saying he had finished the book and that it was the best writing he had ever done. The critics agreed, and the book won the Pulitzer Prize in 1953.

On March 5, 1963, the Hula-Hoop, a hip-swiveling toy that became a huge fad across America when it was first marketed by Wham-O in 1958, is patented by the company's co-founder, Arthur "Spud" Melin. An estimated 25 million Hula-Hoops were sold in its first four months of production alone.

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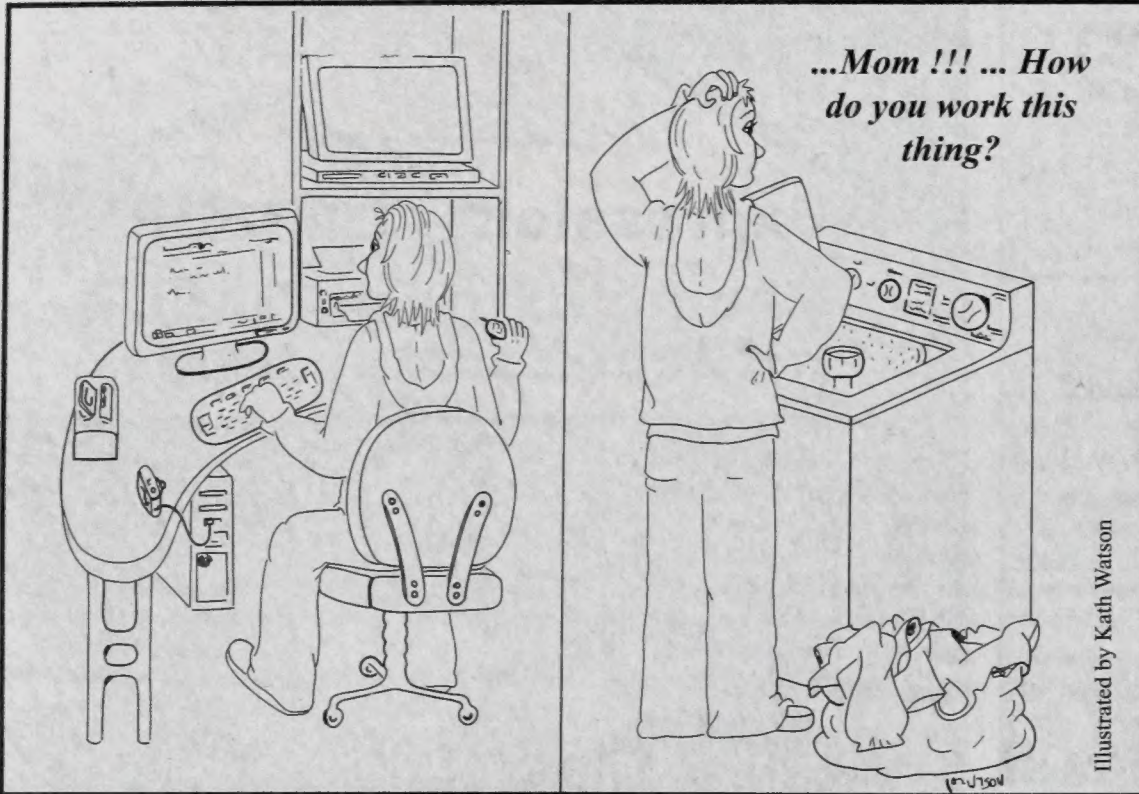
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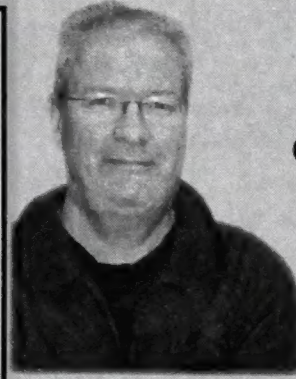


Illustrated by Kath Watson

EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

By Stephen Patrick

Communities, Ideologies, Handouts, Business and Bucks!



Last Friday our local MP, Barry Devolin (Conservative, Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock) had the pleasant task of touring his riding dropping off cheques, schmoozing with old friends, local politicians and dignitaries, and basking in the kind gaze of a grateful people. No unpleasant demonstrations, no rotten tomatoes (that we noticed), just some nice snacks and nice chat. Would that the life of a local politician might always be so easy!

Mr. Devolin started out in Beaverton (\$595,000 for the South Lake Community Futures Development Corporation), slogged his way through Haliburton (\$564,000 for the Haliburton County Community Futures Development Corporation (HCCFDC), which is administered by the Haliburton County Development Corporation (HCDC), and finally ended up in Wilberforce (\$18,300 for the Community Care's When We Were Young project). Details on these last two grants are provided elsewhere in this issue, but there's a larger question in the mix here: just what the role of government should be in our local economy?

There still is a lively debate about that, and whether or not government has any business being in business in the first place. It wasn't so long ago that the very existence of programs like the HCDC, or its offshoot, the HCCFDC, would have been questioned by many on the political right. Just this morning a copy of *The Taxpayer*, the official publication of the Canadian Taxpayers Federation, landed in our office. It lists in gloating, disapproving detail the "Top 100 Grants and Contributions" paid out by the federal Conservative government in its first year of office. (Over \$3.3 billion in total went out to corporations like Pratt & Whitney, institutions like the World Bank and the Vancouver Olympics, organizations like the Toronto Film Festival and the Canadian Television Fund: Indian and Northern Affairs grants to local band councils were also prominent.)

However, when the Mont Tremblant Resorts and Company, for example, can get a cool \$47,122,00 -- non-repayable -- of our money to build two new villages at the popular resort, the HCDC's \$564,000 seems like a mere snowflake in a blizzard. And a long and hard blizzard at that.

So it's pretty obvious that the grant machine in Canada isn't going to wind down substantially under this set of fiscal conservatives. Of course, part of the reason why the HCDC and its Futures program continue to receive monies is simple: the HCDC works, and has worked well, for over 20 years. (Full disclosure: the owners of the *County Voice* and the *Communicator* have never applied for any monies from the HCDC -- yet!)

In that time the organization, under General Manager Andy Campbell has disbursed loans totalling over \$36 million dollars. The HCDC has parlayed an initial government investment of just of \$2,375,000 received from 1986 to 1991 into a loans investment capitalization of an astounding \$9,147,000.

As well, its loan loss rate over that period is just 2.77%, (the lowest loan-loss rate in the Province of Ontario among similar programs) and the number of local businesses that have benefited is over 1,000. The ripple effect on this County over the years has been huge. And the monies granted this year for the Community Futures Program will help even more people learn some of what it takes to become an entrepreneur and shepherd good ideas into concrete action.

Such is the success of programs like the HCDC and Community Futures that it's almost impossible to imagine any government shutting it down. Community Futures began under the Liberals and despite some initial worries when the Conservatives took office two years ago, the program survives with the enthusiastic support of the government. So maybe Big Bad Brother up there in Ottawa has some place in the businesses of the nation after all.

Now, how about \$47 million non-repayable to build a couple more villages in the County, Mr. Devolin? We do villages well here. And at that price, we might even have a couple to sell!

Letter from Greenpeace Canada regarding Patrick Moore

It has recently come to my attention that Patrick Moore has been hired by Bancroft Uranium Inc., a small start-up company that has staked land for uranium exploration in the Bancroft and Highlands East areas.

Mr. Moore trades upon his past involvement with Greenpeace in order to sell his services to a variety of notorious industrial polluters. However, we wish to make it clear that Moore currently has no

association with Greenpeace, and his views have long been rejected by the organization. Nor does Moore represent any significant environmental constituency... his support of uranium exploration and mining, and nuclear power are in direct opposition to the policies of Greenpeace and every other major environmental organization in the country. Mr. Moore is a paid publicist for nuclear industry, and his comments must be understood in that context.

Past uranium mining in Ontario left a deadly legacy of 200 million tonnes of acidic and radioactive tailings in the Elliot Lake and Bancroft areas. There are many environmental, health, safety and economic reasons to oppose both uranium mining and nuclear power.

Greenpeace has already called on Premier McGuinty to enact an immediate moratorium on uranium exploration and mining in Ontario, following the precedent set by Nova Scotia. We have supported residents and First Nations in the Sharbot Lake area who are also opposing uranium exploration. Residents must stand up and oppose incursions on their property for uranium exploration.

The nuclear fuel chain (uranium exploration, mining, & milling, refining, nuclear power and radioactive waste storage) results in radioactive pollution at every stage. Ontario does not need nuclear power or uranium mining -- we can meet our power needs through conservation, renewable energy, and local generation.

The bottom line is this: leave Ontario's uranium in the ground.

Sincerely,

Dave Martin
Climate and Energy Co-ordinator, Greenpeace Canada

More letters... pg. 5...

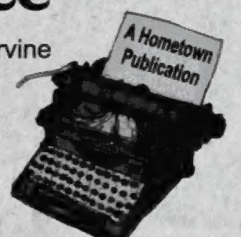
Letters To The Editor Welcomed !!

We are now accepting Letters to the Editor - so let us know what you have to say. You can email them to letters@countyvoice.ca, or mail to Letters - Box 930 Haliburton, Ont. K0M 1S0 - or drop them off at the office located in the lower level of Stedman's Mall in Haliburton.

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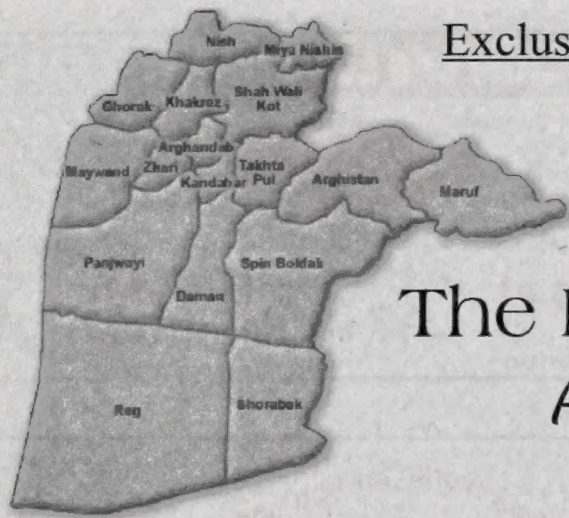
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Exclusive to the County Voice - Part 5

"I'm not quite sure, but I think he was actually sad that my shots were up to date!"

The Road to Kandahar A Soldier's Journal

by Captain David Beatty

Next Stop Texas!

0600hrs, 14 February 2008: While most people were just thinking about starting their day, over 200 members of JTFA - Headquarters were already at work, getting ready to head to Texas.

For most readers, a trip out of the country involves arriving at the airport two or three hours in advance, lining up at a ticket counter, handing in their baggage and then spending the rest of the time before they depart drinking overpriced airport coffee. In the case of the soldiers from Canadian Forces Base (CFB) Petawawa, all departures require what is called a "DAG" (Departure Assistance Group). In the case of Exercise SOUTHERN BEAR (the name of our exercise in Texas), the movement of over 3,000 soldiers to Texas provided an excellent opportunity to conduct an initial DAG, in preparation for deployment to Afghanistan. The purpose of a DAG is to ensure that all soldiers are administratively prepared to travel outside of Canada. When you are moving large groups of people on tight timelines, the last thing you need is for someone to "knock the train off the tracks" by not having their passport or have their baggage held up for containing something it should not.

Upon arrival, individuals stand in lines (highly reminiscent of bread lines in the Former Soviet Union). First off - Issue of Passports. The Task Force Chief Clerk (WO Steve Bush) waits patiently as individuals report in. ID Discs (Dog Tags) and ID Cards are checked, Green Government passports are issued and checked for accuracy (comments on the actual likeness of the photo to the holder of the passport echo along the line). Next stop, Canada Customs to register all of the essential items - lap top, iPod and digital camera. Now I enter the dreaded "Traffic Technician Line" - or what is better termed as the baggage check. As I make my way through the senior traffic technician walks amongst the assembled masses, in a manner quite similar to that of a town crier, chanting the mantra of the traffic tech - "ensure you have no food, flammable items, aerosol spray or prohibited items in your kit". As I reach the counter the cheerful technician greets me



Our Troops arrive in Texas for Training.

with a smile. "Good morning Sir! Can you open your barracks box please?" And now the questions begin - Did you pack this yourself? - Well I had help from a 4 year old, I reply. "Do you have any dangerous items packed in your baggage?" - Well lets see, body armour, helmet, bayonet, jump knife, 30 round magazines for my rifle, pistol magazines - Nope, nothing out of the usual packed there. "Thanks very much Sir!" replies the overly cheerful Traffic technician as my barracks bag, rucksack and kit bag disappear from the table and are carried off to the

waiting baggage truck. With a smile on her face, she hands me a boarding pass and says, "Only one more station to go through Sir, have a nice day!" and she points to the door marked "Enter".

Upon entering the final stand, I now know why she was most cheerful, hidden behind the door awaited the Immunization Stand. "Good Morning Sir, may I have your

inoculation book please?" Even though this reminds me of being asked for my papers by an East German Border Guard, I nevertheless hand them over to the Medic, who flips through them, checking off a small checklist beside him with the keen determination of a tax adjuster. Behind him await a series of medics, armed with needles anxiously awaiting their next 'customer'. The fellow beside me looks a little pale as he is told by a rather happy medic "you need three shots, step over to table two please". I watch with close attention as the medic going through my books (I currently have three) has lost the smile from his face and states "you are good to go Sir!" and checks my name off their list. I am not quite sure, but I think he was actually sad that my shots were up to date.

Travel to Texas has been a combination of civilian charter and military airlift. All of the units from CFB Petawawa are staged out of Ottawa (which of course means a two hour bus ride). At 0430hrs on Sunday I headed out of the house. My wife provided her regular send off by handing me a coffee, telling me to be quiet and not wake the dog, and that she will see me when I get home, and above all to play safe (she has gone through this so many times that she has it down to a science, almost to the level of the happy traffic technicians). As I am met by the minus 26 degree weather, I know that in 15 hours, I will most likely be complaining about the heat. Texas, here we come!

Coming Next Issue.

Combat
training begins....



and it's no
picnic...

Letter to the Editor

Thank you, Good Samaritan!

On Friday, February 15th, 2008 I had the misfortune to suffer a concussion in a fall in the Independent parking lot in Haliburton.

A very kind lady helped my husband get me into our car, and then went into the store to report my accident. How good it is to live in a small community where people take the time to help someone in need!

I have no recollection of getting into the car and no concept of the time I spent waiting to be seen by the medical staff at Haliburton Hospital. I probably never will. However, I do remember that the staff were caring and professional.

As I write this, five days later, I am still stiff and sore in places and still have a rather large, tender spot on my head. I am also still suffering from intermittent headaches.

Again, thank you to all those who helped us. Haliburton County has to be the best place in the world to live!

Sincerely,
Lynda L. Burley.



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Born on the 29th: Therapy Looms

Staff
County Voice

For most kids, conformity is heaven: being like everyone else seems like the safest way to traverse the crevasses of life, not to mention that mean kid who's bigger than you down at the end of the block. So think of what it might be like for the little guy who only gets to have one birthday every four years. Who, by the time his buddies turn eight, thinks he's really only two. And whose parents, no doubt well-meaning, keep telling him that he'll be treated just like everybody else, except that he can't celebrate his birthday this year on the real date, because it doesn't actually exist. Does that mean I don't exist, the kid might ask, with some reason. Why am I the only person on earth, practically, who was born on a day that doesn't exist for three quarters of my life? And

what's this about 'leap' year. Where am I supposed to jump, and why? Over my sister when she's teasing me because I'm only two, and she's nine, and she's smaller than me, and smarter? That's what she says, anyway. And my classmates, who tell me I'm wonderful because I'm toilet trained and only two years old – why do they think that's so funny? A lot of February 29th kids celebrate their birthdays on the 28th: some wait until March 1st. Maybe these little ones who don't exist because their birthdays are somewhere in the ether for three quarters of their life should try this on their parents: celebrate each non-leap year twice, once on the 28th, once on the 1st. Just call it barely adequate compensation for a lifetime of birthday-neglect to come. And pile on the presents: the teenage years aren't far off and therapy looms. Large.

She's 26... but is also possibly the oldest Leap Baby alive today



Meet Florence Beatrice Stevens who is celebrating her birthday for only the 26th time on February 29th. She is a "leap-year day" baby, born at Beverly, Massachusetts on February 29, 1904, and that makes her 104 years old!

Now, in our search for the oldest leap year baby, we feel we have found that in Beatrice, but that doesn't mean we can't be proven wrong. At press time, Beatrice was our gal. Think about it... to be an older "leap-year day" baby you would have to be at least 108 years old. (a very small percentage of the population) and also be born on the 29th of February 1900. The odds of someone still alive in 2008 and being born on leap year day 108 years ago are astronomical. Thus I feel that this Beverly native and former resident very likely would be able to claim to be the oldest "leap-year day" baby still alive in America, if not the entire world. Now to find someone who was born an hour or two sooner on the same day... That could be possible - just haven't found them yet.

Leaps and Bounds: New Perspectives on Familiar Ideas

by Brenda Peddigrew

The idea for this column came about because 2008 is a leap year. Most people know that a leap year has an extra day, and that it's at the end of February, giving it 29 days instead of 28. The heavens are so ordered that every four years we need an extra day to be aligned with the movement of the sun. This is the scientific understanding of a leap year, and it's an important reminder that we human beings don't create the world – the world (read Earth, Universe, Cosmos) creates us, and we find our little ways to conform to it.

But why the word "leap?" That is something not generally written about, or even known. In our everyday language we use the word "leap" to describe a dramatic jump – not a little jump, mind you, but a dramatic one. We leap from a high place, or across a roof; we leap across chasms and from trees. Leaping takes us from one place to another, and sometimes those places are very different from one another.

A new word has come into our language standing next to leap. That word is "quantum." What then is a quantum leap?

If we remember history, we might say that humankind has been stuck in wars and destruction for a very long time. So long, some say, that we have come to see conflict, greed, selfishness, fighting, arguing, as human nature. Today there are many people – and many young people at that – who say that this need not be so; in fact is not so. These are people who have decided to focus on all the good that people do rather than the bad; to point it out, to tell those good stories that we seldom hear in the news, and to actually work with others to create some new. This would be an example of a "quantum leap" and it's definitely happening in the world right now. The most noticeable example is how normal it's becoming to "go green" in the mainstream – something that used to be done only by a few "tree huggers." Now there are ordinary people bringing

their own permanent shopping bags to IGA and Value Mart.

But it's the "few people" that bring about the quantum leaps. They see something that not many see and understand. They chew over it, work with it, talk about it, take criticism for it and spread it around – perhaps for years and years – and suddenly everyone is doing it as if it's always been done. Then the change happens in leaps and bounds – our common phrase for "very quickly."

We live in a time that is moving forward in leaps and bounds. Recently I read the statement of a revered scientific teacher who said that our children will look back on us in just the same way as we look on the people of the eighteenth century. That's how quickly change is happening, brought about by technology and the information age. We are already a global community, and the ease with which young people travel and work in many countries is our best proof. It is also changing everything and more quickly than we realize. Who could have known, just a few years ago, that a twenty-three-year old woman could go to an African village and build a school just because she saw the need? And she's not even a rare case - many in her age group are doing just such things with their early lives. There is even a name for them: they call themselves "walkouts," because they are walking out of the carefully prescribed, money-seeking lives that they see in the generation preceding them.

So we are at a crossroads. Can we make the world different? Will we be part of the quantum leap that will turn the world into something better, something never before seen in history? If you have a computer, go to the website www.theSHIFTmovie.com and see a preview of just how much of a quantum leap is presently happening. The movie itself will be out in the spring.

Leaps and bounds... next time we'll talk about the bounding!

Have Your Say... VOX POP

We asked people if they were aware that 2008 is a Leap year. If so, how did they know and if not, why?



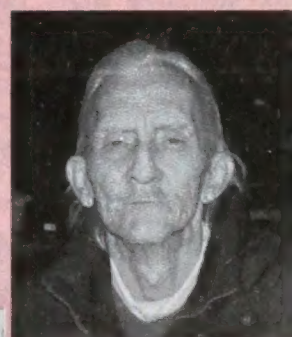
Betty Paton
"Yeah, I knew. There's not normally a 29th in February. I know someone in the second grade that was born then."

Tyler Barry
"Yes. In Grade 6 French class I found out about it. A friend at Stuart Baker told me that he knows a kid who has his birthday on February 29."



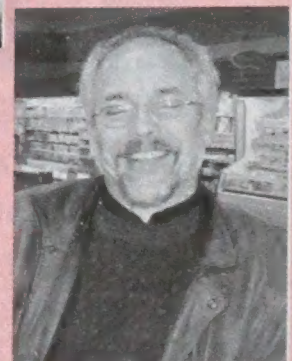
Jan Newbatt
"I don't pay attention to stuff like that. Lots of times I don't even when it's a Saturday or a holiday!"

Lloyd Cowie
"Yeah, I read about it in the paper."



Laurie Thibadeau
"Yes, I did. My daughter was born on March 2 in a Leap year. Other than that, it doesn't have any other significance to me."

Rick Forget
"Yeah, I knew about it. I guess it's from all the advertising on T.V."



Got an interesting question for Vox Pop? Give us a call and we might use it !!
457-5001

Mine Workers' Perspectives..... Two Local Uranium Miners Reminisce

Liz Danielsen
Staff Reporter

Working in the Lab in the Early Days.....

Ken Sanderson is a well known senior citizen from Wilberforce, and he hasn't been shy about speaking his mind when it comes to uranium mining. This week, the County Voice listened to him talk about his own work at the mines and his take on the current controversy from a somewhat different perspective.

Sanderson's story is an interesting one and his experience over the years has varied widely. His early school years on Wilbermere Lake proved to be difficult as he was subjected to superstition and discrimination for being a southpaw. But Sanderson managed to rise above that and started a long history of work with the Red Cross, becoming the President of the Junior Red Cross at the age of 12. Sanderson was a member and President of the Wilberforce Branch Canadian Red Cross for 26 consecutive years, helping farm families from Gooderham to Highland Grove who had no health coverage to receive medical care. He was also a founding member of the Wilberforce Heritage Society. Sanderson was a reporter for the Toronto Star from time to time and worked as a log scaler and yard overseer for Martin Lumber. He owned and operated Sanderson's Dairy for five years, and supplied the mines with milk until the business was sold to Kawartha Dairies who were looking to expand their territory. That was in 1958 and Sanderson went to work at the Dyno Mine for the next 17 months.

Uranium had been found as early as 1922 on property in the Monmouth area. This has been referred to in

publications as the 'opening engagement' in the struggle to find new deposits which resulted in 100 area prospects opening between 1953 and 1956. Four of them became producing mines; the Bicroft Mine in Cardiff, the Greyhawk Mine, the mine in Faraday and the Dyno Mine. The Dyno deposit was discovered in 1953 and development got underway by Canadian Dyno Mines Limited in 1954. A shaft was sunk to a depth of just over 1700 feet and a mill constructed for on site operations. Historic reports indicate that production amounted to over 800 thousand pounds of uranium. Operations ceased at the site in the early 1960's but responsibilities remain in place for rehabilitation & decommissioning.

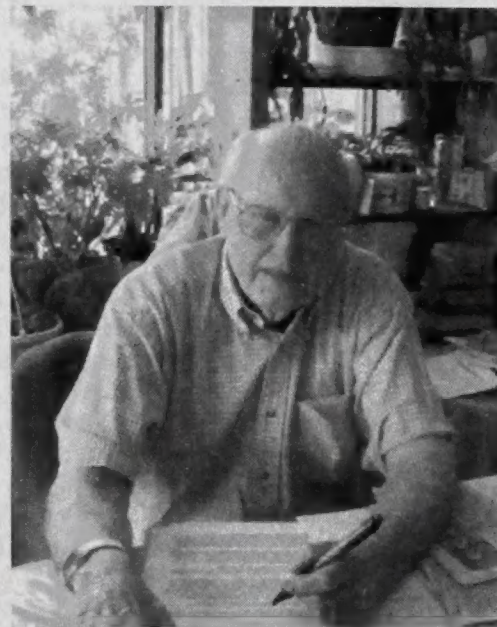


Former Miner - Don Meharrie

Sanderson was hired as a lab technician in the radiometric division. Sampling was done at various levels in the mine and each sample was carefully labeled and sent to the lab for testing. Sanderson says each sample was crushed into powder and put into an oven to take as much moisture out as possible. Quantities of the powder were weighed carefully and the weights documented, then placed in a sealed lead container for

testing. The tests determined the levels of radiation and percentages of radium per ton of ore. Sanderson says he worked on what he called 'the dry side' of the lab. Testing was also conducted on samples of the same ore utilizing a wet process, which included treating the samples in acid. Their calculations determined the amounts of salt and sulphuric acid to be added in order to break the ore down. Results of both tests were expected to match closely and Sanderson says there was a very narrow tolerance for difference. Ore showing levels less than 1/2 pound of uranium per ton were scrapped and sent to the tailing piles rather than being processed in the mill. The remaining ore was shipped out in a blended mix for processing in Port Hope.

According to Sanderson, "I was never advised by mining authorities that there was any danger associated with my work." In fact, there didn't appear to be any discussion of danger from radiation or possible health risks to any of the employees at the mine. To this day Sanderson is firm in his belief that the uranium he worked with was in an inactive form and that he was in no danger. He adds that if there was radiation, it was sufficiently insignificant to be of concern. Sanderson says that no protective clothing or equipment was provided at any time to any of the workers other than safety boots and hard hats to the miners. There were over 425 employees at the mine who were



Former Lab Technician - Ken Sanderson

represented by a union established from within the ranks of the mine employees. Any training that Sanderson was offered either before or during his tenure at the mine was strictly associated with understanding and operating the equipment in the lab.

In response to a statement that mining operations may have been far less sophisticated and subject to less scrutiny

or government regulations in the late 50's and early 60's, Sanderson admits that there are far greater levels of knowledge and awareness these days, many more regulations and much better advice given to workers. However, he stands firm in his belief that mining authorities and health departments were sufficiently knowledgeable during his mining era to have been able to identify a uranium related health concern and investigate it. Since the resurgence of interest in uranium in the area and talk of the risks associated with it, Sanderson has spoken with his physician who reports having no encounters with patients that had illnesses resulting from the influence of uranium. Sanderson has challenged anyone in the area who worked in the mine and suffered from uranium related illnesses to contact him, but has had no response.

After his departure from the mine, Sanderson entered and excelled in the world of real estate. He worked as an agent for Bowes & Cocks for 12 years and then with Montague Real Estate for 9 years. He spoke of the positive impact mining in the area has had on the economy and his belief that its influence indicates no adverse effects on property values. But, when asked if he would purchase acreage next to an open pit mining operation, he admitted he likely wouldn't. Still, Sanderson maintains his belief that mining helped open the area up and brought increased property values as well. Sanderson spoke of the entire town site of Cardiff, Bicroft and Dyno Estates emerging due to uranium mining and the resulting employment and economic spin-offs which acted as a boost from Gooderham to Bancroft. He says the area is desperately in need of industry and employment and that he, for one, supports any endeavor that offers those benefits.

Working Underground.....

"It was a good time in my life and given half a chance I'd go back to work for the mine in a minute," says miner Don Meharrie of Cardiff. Meharrie worked as a driller/blaster and cage tender at the Madawaska Mine in Faraday Township.

Madawaska was a uranium mine where the ore was hosted in granite and pegmatite. The mine was discovered and originally staked in 1949 by A.H. Shore of Bancroft. Underground development first got under way in 1954 by Faraday Uranium Mines Ltd. and production started in 1957. Operations lasted

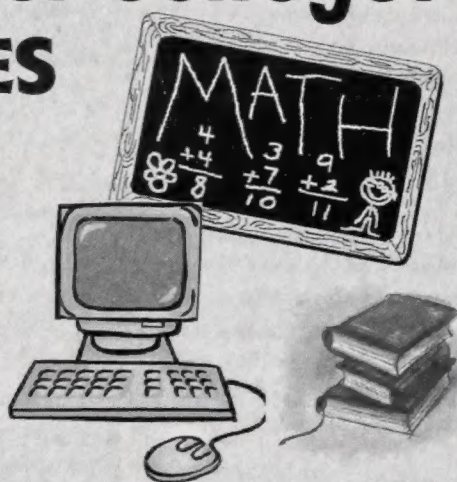
Miners cont'd... pg. 9...

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Working the Uranium Mines of Haliburton County

... from pg. 8

until 1964 when contracts to sell uranium expired and the mine closed. Things got under way again at the site in 1975 with Madawaska Mines Ltd. The 1,440 foot deep shaft into the uranium-bearing pegmatite was deepened to reach a depth of 1,537 feet and production started in 1976, lasting until 1982, when once again, the company's supply contract wasn't renewed. Over 4 ½ tons of uranium were produced in the mine during its two periods of production.

Meharrie, who lived in Harcourt at the time, was offered a job at the Madawaska Mine in 1977 and worked straight through until the mine closed in 1982. He says that "those days, working in the mine was a lot safer than working in the bush" and he was tickled pink to have such a good paying job. According to Meharrie, mine supervisors were very open about the potential risks of working in the mine. He was told right off the bat that a small percentage of mine workers could be prone to cancer as a result of their work, and that the risks would be even greater for smokers. Meharrie says he hasn't suffered any damage as a result of his work underground even though he smokes to this day. The company offered a health insurance program, and while employees didn't belong to any union, there was an excellent employees' association to represent any concerns raised by miners. Madawaska also had a strong safety program. Two safety supervisors were on site at all times, weekly meetings were held and all safety regulations enforced. Meharrie says "the working conditions were very good and you couldn't ask for a better safety program than what our mine provided." All the required safety gear (boots, suits, safety glasses and hard hats) were supplied by the mine and everyone was given regular instruction in safe working practices. According to Meharrie, mine representatives visited each miner's home to run a check for radon gas as they didn't want their workers working or living with any of the gas.

Meharrie talked about his work as a cage tender, running men, equipment and ore up and down the mine shaft. He also drilled test holes for a period of time, but Meharrie holds a blasting ticket and most of his time was spent drilling and blasting ore in the drifts or in a stope, then loading it into ore buckets in the cage and transferred to the mill at the top. Rather than worrying about working with uranium, Meharrie's safety concerns were focused on the rock itself and any chance for cave-ins. He said the rock in the area is safer than what might be encountered anywhere else in Canada as it is a much denser and therefore more stable rock. Despite the stable rock, 12' rock bolts and screens were drilled into the ceilings to reduce any risk of falling rock or cave-ins.

Meharrie proudly displayed photos of his time in the mine, in particular a shot of the Madawaska Mine Rescue Team that he belonged to. His team was trained to do rescue operations in underground emergencies, which mostly consisted of fires. He said that if there had been any major collapse, it would call for help from many more of the staff & miners. Meharrie's rescue team did win competitions in the Southern Ontario District and the right to compete in the provincial competitions.

Meharrie says the Madawaska Mine closed in 1982 when their contract to supply uranium to Ontario Hydro was over and the work went to Uranium City Saskatchewan. "I liked working there and thought it was a fine job" he said, adding that, along with a lot of other

Meharrie believes that regardless of the boom and bust aspect of mining operations, the economy in the area does need a boost.

people, he was very disappointed when the mine closed. He spoke of the small community that had developed around the mine, saying how well kept it was with nice homes and a tennis court. Despite the protective diversion ditches built around the remaining mass of tailings when the mine was decommissioned, Meharrie says "You can hardly tell there was a mine there now!" He likened this to the Dyno mine site where he says you'd be hard pressed to find the site.

When asked about how renewed mining might affect the housing market, Meharrie admitted that he wouldn't buy land next to an open pit mine because of the noise and activity. Of the Madawaska Mine, he says you could stand right next to the mill and wouldn't hear a thing. But then, he also joked that right now in his estimation "the biggest open pit mine in the area is probably Chester Schwandt's old gravel pit!"

Meharrie believes that regardless of the boom and bust aspect of mining operations, the economy in the area does need a boost. "We're not all retired cottagers here and many folks need whatever work they can find." Meharrie thinks that most of his fellow workers would share his desire to see the mines re-opened, or new operations get underway. Admitting that he might be just a bit past becoming a miner again, he firmly believes that resurgence in mining would be a terrific opportunity for the younger generation, many of whom have to leave the area to get a decent job. With so many environmental controls placed on mining operations these days, Meharrie believes that the benefits of renewed mining far outweigh the risks. He says "as far as I'm concerned mining was good to me and all the folks who worked there."



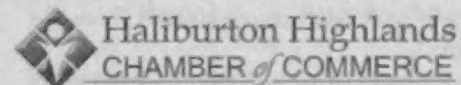
This Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce event is an evening to celebrate and honour the achievements and contributions of people who live and work in Haliburton County. Nomination forms available on website: hhchamber.on.ca

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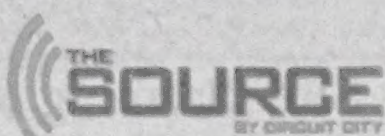
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Thursday, February 28, 2008

Villeneuve Coming To Race Despite Injury

Terrance Gavan

Sports Editor

Jacques Villeneuve is either the luckiest man in racing or the toughest.

Or quite possibly both.

Just six weeks ago Villeneuve suffered a horrendous crash while racing his Ski-Doo snow machine at the 45th World Championship Snowmobile Derby in Eagle River, Wisconsin.

According to a report filed by AP at the time of the accident on January 22nd:

"Eagle River Track general manager Todd Achterberg said Villeneuve's Ski-Doo sled appeared to blow its engine before it was hit from behind on a straightaway, leaving Villeneuve vulnerable," said Associated Press.

"It was very scary, the worst kind of accident that can happen on a snowmobile," Achterberg said. "When you're just sliding down the ice and sleds are coming at you at 90 mph, that's not a good thing."

He was airlifted to a hospital in central Wisconsin and underwent emergency surgery to repair damage to his pelvis and lower spine. He was transferred to another hospital for further surgery before returning to Montreal where he again entered hospital for installation of more pins and treatment of a build-up of blood near the site of the injury.

Villeneuve is a three-time winner of the Eagle River Event and it's one of the racing venues that solidified his now legendary status in the sport of full frontal snowmobile racing.

It's Villeneuve's balls to the walls racing style that fuels the turnstiles at pro sledding events.

Fans flock to watch the Bertierville Bullet run his sled with alacrity and abandon.

He rides the thin edge between heaven, hell and podium.

Doctors told the 54-year-old Villeneuve that his racing season was over. They told him that he should probably stay off the left leg for at least six to eight weeks. The infection near the site of the injury was actually at one point a pivotal concern for his doctors in Montreal.

"They said a lot of things to me, but I knew I wanted to get back out and race this season," said Villeneuve, from his home in Saint-Cuthbert, Quebec on Tuesday night.

"The build up of blood was a problem... and at one point they said that I had a fifty-fifty chance of surviving."

Surgery was necessary to drain the site where blood was pooling. Villeneuve said there was a time when that became a critical area of concern. But they managed to stabilize the flow of blood to the area and he began the process of recovery back in Saint-Cuthbert.

"They told me to take it easy, but here I am... I raced last week in Eganville and I am going to be arriving in Haliburton on Thursday and I will be ready to race for Saturday and Sunday."

Last weekend Villeneuve was back in the driver's seat ripping up

the track at the Bonnechere Cup in Eganville, roaring to second place in heats on both Saturday and Sunday before succumbing to sled breakdowns in both events.

Highland Cup organizer Harold Foyster said that he was at both the Eagle River and Bonnechere Cup events.

"I was there when he crashed at Eagle River and I have to say that it was pretty awful and it looked very bad," says Foyster, who is busy making last minute preparations for the Highland Cup which is slated for Head Lake Park in Haliburton on March 1st and 2nd.

"But I watched him race in Eganville and he was right back into it," says Foyster. "He's raring to go and he's feeling like a million bucks and I think it's because racing is his life. He just wasn't ready to sit down for the rest of the season. He had a bit of bad luck with sled breakdowns last weekend or he would have placed second."

Villeneuve says that he is aware of the inherent dangers involved while racing on a pelvis that is essentially being held together by a succession of surgical pins and a lower spine that is in less than optimum condition.

"Let's face it... it is dangerous if I ever got knocked off the sled... that could be a problem because of the pelvis and the pins," says Villeneuve, brother of Formula One legend Gilles and uncle to Jacques the younger.

"The doctors told me that I shouldn't be putting any weight on the leg for at least two months, but I was up and walking in a week to two weeks," says the indomitable Villeneuve.

"It was painful at first, but I am working hard and it feels okay so far and I know I'm going to be ready to race on Saturday and Sunday there in Haliburton."

And of course. When the Bertierville Bullet is in da' house. Just about anything can happen.

Extra Laps: Foyster says that everything is proceeding smoothly as volunteers prep the 3/8 mile track on Head Lake for weekend action.

"Racers will be arriving on Thursday and Friday and we're working at putting up banners and preparing the sound system," says Foyster.

He adds that the vintage machines will be taking demo laps and the ACSCC (The Antique and Classic Snowmobile Club of Canada) will have a full display available on the grounds at Head Lake during both event days.

On Friday afternoon (March 1) Foyster says that interested spectators can gain free entry for practice runups and hot laps. A food concession will be set up at the Rail's End Gallery on Friday and throughout the weekend.

Races start at 10 am on both Saturday and Sunday. Racing wraps up by 5pm on both days.

Adults can purchase a two-day pass for \$30 or pay \$20 for a single day ticket. Tickets are \$5 for children 12 and under.

For more info please visit www.highlandcup.com.



Sports This Week

Boys Basketball

- Monday March 3 - Boys Basketball OFSAA Provincials - All Day

Red Hawk Hockey

- Girls Hockey Tournament: North York March 3-4 - All Day (2 Day Event)
- Hockey - Boys
Monday March 3 - Kawartha Finals Teams TBA and if necessary.
- Wednesday March 5 - COSSA Finals Teams TBA and if necessary.

Snowboarding

- Fri, Feb 29: Snow Boarding - Kawartha Meet Sir Sams Ski Area - All Day
- Monday March 3 - OFSAA Meet Georgian Peaks - All Day

Nordic Skiing

- Feb 27-29: OFSAA Meet (3 Day)
North Bay - Provincial Event

Girls Volleyball

- Tuesday, March 4: Senior Girls Volleyball OFSAA Meet - Sudbury All Day

Curling

Red Hawks - March 3 - 10 am Start
COSSA Boys Bonspiel at Haliburton Curling Club

Minden Curling Club

- March 9 - Spring Senior / Social - Fun Day
Contact Jim Vincent - 705-489-3589

Haliburton Curling Club

- March 1 - Highland Lassie
- March 5 - Jack Robertson Spiel
- March 8 - St Patty's Fun Spiel

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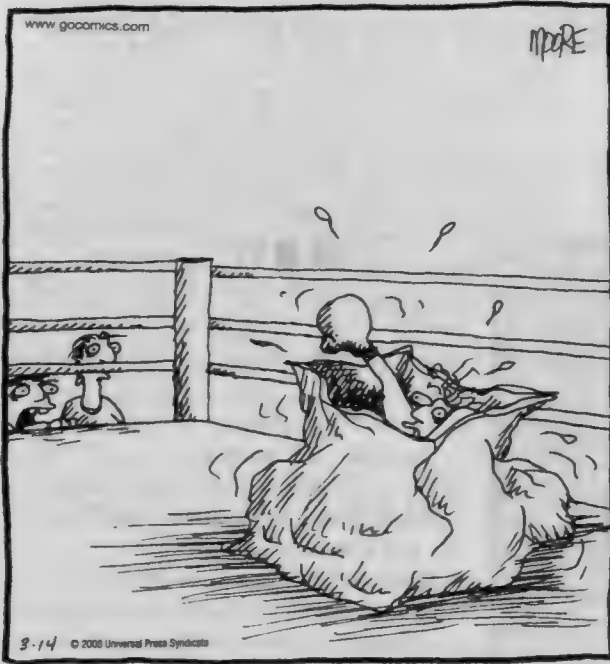
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"Let's give him a couple more minutes, but it looks like we've got ourselves a bum who can't fight his way out of a paper bag."



1. Name the three pitchers since Lew Burdette in 1957 to win at least three games in a World Series.
2. Boston's Ted Williams twice won a Triple Crown without winning the

American League MVP award in the same season. Name the two players who beat him out for the award.

3. Who was the first receiver in Tampa Bay Buccaneers history to have back-to-back 1,000-yard seasons?
4. When was the last time before 2006 and 2007 that the Atlantic Coast Conference did not have a team in the men's basketball Final Four for two consecutive seasons?
5. Which two NHL teams, entering the 2007-08 season, held the longest current streak for not making the NHL playoffs?
6. Which Olympics was the film "Chariots of Fire" based on?
7. When golfer Zach Johnson won the 2007 Masters, three players tied for second, two shots off the pace. Name at least two of them.

Answers

1. Bob Gibson in 1967, Mickey Lolich in 1968 and Randy Johnson in 2001.
2. Joe Gordon in 1942 and Joe DiMaggio in 1947.
3. Keyshawn Johnson in 2001-02.
4. It was 1979 and 1980.
5. The Florida Panthers and the Columbus Blue Jackets (six seasons each).
6. The 1924 Summer Olympics.
7. Retief Goosen, Rory Sabbatini and Tiger Woods.



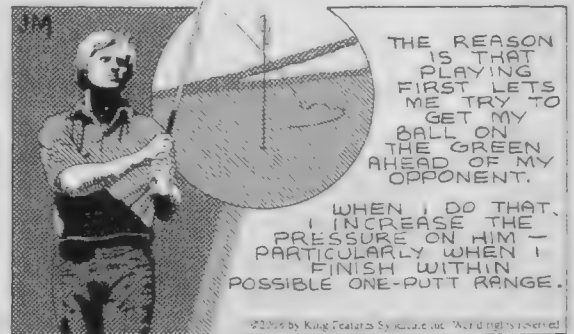
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Terrance Gavan
Sports Editor

Chris Benoit Revisited Fifth Estate Dangles Red Herring

The CBC's *Fifth Estate* recently aired a program offering some mitigation for Canadian wrestler Chris Benoit. Here's what the CBC *Fifth Estate* said about Benoit's concussive confrontations, which set him on a collision course with psychosis:

"In the pro wrestling firmament, there were few stars as big as Edmonton's Chris Benoit. But, on June 25, 2007, Benoit's name ricocheted around the world, suddenly more notorious than for anything he'd ever done in a wrestling ring. Inside his Atlanta, Georgia mansion were three bodies: Benoit had strangled his wife and suffocated his seven-year-old son and then killed himself. Quickly, the finger of blame was pointed at Benoit's steroid use, so rampant in pro wrestling; the deaths, it was assumed, the result of a steroid-fuelled rage.

"But, an investigation into the deaths of Chris Benoit, his wife and son, by reporter Bob McKeown reveals that Benoit also may have been the victim of a physical condition brought on by years of undiagnosed concussions."

Here's what I think about that.

So what. Smoke and mirrors. Cause and effect. What does it matter that Mr. Benoit was kookoo. His brain didn't get that way by a life led luxuriating in calm introspection. He was able to pursue that noggin-denting lifestyle by dint of his reliance on horse pills, bennies, uppers, downers, valium and various and sundry pain eradicators.

Mr. Benoit's fate was sealed from the minute he cranked headlong into a pursuit of fame, fortune and fringe foolishness. The red herring being dangled by McKeown and the *Fifth Estate* is an autopsy of Benoit's brain showing advanced dementia. "Dr. Bennet Omalu, who carried out the examination, diagnosed Benoit's brain as having Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy, or CTE. In other words, his brain looked like that of an 80- or 90-year-old suffering from a type of dementia."

Here's what I think about that.

So what. Choices. Concatenation of events.

If we have even a basic level of compassion and moral

acumen we all know that Mr. Benoit was never in his right mind. No one kills a wife and son in his right mind.

The implication promulgated by *Fifth Estate* is that severe and continuing trauma due in the main to his choice of employment led to multiple and ongoing concussions.

Here's what I think about that.

So what. Big deal. Artful dodge.

Mr. Benoit was a man. Capable of choice. Early in his career — prior to his many preternatural consecutive concussive events — he was cogent enough to assess the harm steroids, painkillers and numerous noggin jangles into a corner post could inflict upon his scrambled synapses.

Chris chose fame. Chris chose the Rolls, the big house, the pander and the buck. Here's what Truman said about the buck.

"It stops here!"

Chris never studied history so that illuminating gem was a non-starter.

Because, like a great many of his WWE linemates, Chris eschewed pursuits of the mind to chase glitter, fame and ersatz gratification. *Fifth Estate* said: Chris had a dream.

Here's what Rudyard Kipling wrote once about that. *If you can dream - and not make dreams your master; If you can think - and not make thoughts your aim; If you can meet with triumph and disaster And treat those two imposters just the same;*

Here's what I think about that.

Chris Benoit should have spent more time in English class and less time flying around the makeshift rassling' ring in the Hart Family's Calgary backyard.

In a life marred by vainglory, vulgar pretense and vacuous preening, Benoit succeeded at one thing.

Chris Benoit managed to separate his brain from his soul.

Here's what I know about that.

There's a lesson here.

We should weave that lesson into a book.

Then we should present it to WWE founder, the vacuous and vacillating Vince McMahon. And if he should decline to give it a peruse?

We should hit him in the head with it. Hard and often.

Then we should ask the preening malignancy:

Hey Vincent... how does that feel?



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Lyn Winans
Photojournalist

The Journey of a Desk

... from pg. 1

"Eventually our freelance staff included the two local doctors, one who loved sports, and another who loved to take pictures. And the jail cleaner, who was also in fact a nurse and married to another nurse (but both couldn't work at the local clinic), became our editor. However, after a difficult year we decided to return to Ontario. My work was underfunded, and frankly very depressing. And Ron was upset with the changes in the people and the land that had taken place over the years. When we decided to come back, Ron said we couldn't afford to ship everything back, so we sold a lot of our chattels."



When word got out that Ron and Sharon were selling their furniture, the paper's community columnist "came clomping up the stairs and offered us \$20 for Ron's old desk. We said, sure, but then she asked if Ron would write down the names of every book he wrote on that desk, and sign and date the desk drawer with each title. Ron laughed,

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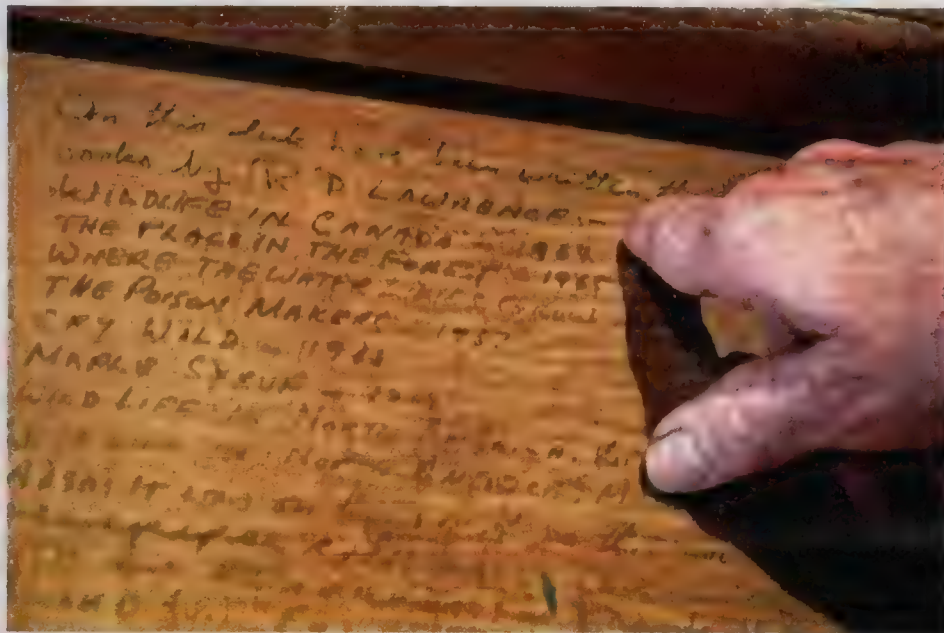
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and said why not, and we didn't think anything more of it. Ron was not sentimental about these things, to say the least."

Fast forward almost 30 years, and lo and behold, in 2007 Sharon and Dianne Graham were contacted by a couple in Kelowna, BC. "We have a desk here that we bought at a yard sale a little while ago, and we noticed the desk drawer had a list of books on it by R.D. Lawrence. Would this desk by any chance have belonged to Mr. Lawrence, the author?"

"Well, I just couldn't believe it," says Sharon. "This kind couple had found out all about the R.D. Lawrence Place on the Internet, and were considerate enough to call. When they found out it was in fact Ron's they immediately offered to donate it to us. The husband was a historian who had heard of Ron, but didn't actually know he had passed away. So they took a picture of it, sent it to me, and sure enough it was of course his desk, after all these years."

The generosity of the BC couple even extended to shipping the desk to Toronto, where last weekend, in another strange twist of fate, it was finally delivered to Sharon and the R.D. Lawrence Place, again free of charge, by one of the participants in the Haliburton Hockey Haven Tournament! This kind man just happened to be an employee of the shipping company, and knew the desk was being held there until arrangements could be made to pick it up. Dianne Graham had offered to have it delivered by courier, but the shipping manager pointed out that "lady, to ship it that way, you need a box!"

And so the desk, with the titles intact, in Ron's handwriting, is now safely at home in Minden. The desk itself is entirely unpretentious, a simple surface for a working writer, but with one very special drawer that will be forever a piece of Canada's, and Haliburton's, literary history.

And what ever happened to the newspaper and its house painter/jail cleaner/nurse/editor/proprietor whose name was in fact Al Fewster? Well, Al eventually sold the paper at a nice profit, moved back to Ontario, and is looking forward to the formal opening of the R.D. Lawrence Place in April.





4th Annual Minden Firefighters' Ice Fishing Derby

From a distance Pigeon Lake almost looked like a lunar colony. Small buildings surrounded by humanoid figures were scattered everywhere.

At closer inspection the humanoids became ice fishermen and women enjoying a beautiful day on the lake.

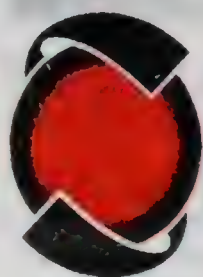
It was the Minden Fire Fighters' 4th annual winter fishing derby.

There was a definite family flavour to the day as kids under 12 were admitted free. And as luck would have it, February 24th was a license free day in Ontario, so there was no need to worry about legalities. Everyone seemed to enjoy the camaraderie and the BBQ'd burgers and dogs carefully tended by the fire crew. (And it must be pointed out that the crew seemed to have more trouble building a fire than putting one out!)

At the end of the day Minden Fire Chief Doug Schell pronounced the event a great success. There were 144 participants vying to win \$500.00, \$300.00 or \$100.00 in prizes. All the proceeds from the event will go to purchase more life saving and training equipment for the fire fighters, which could very well benefit any one of us at some future date.

Larry Case of Norland with a catch of 4.16 lbs took first place.

Photos By:
Lyn Winans



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New Fishing Regulations For 2008

George Farrell

Staff Reporter

that
Haliburton

Bill Hutson is the Area Supervisor of the staff that manages the fish and wildlife resources in our area, on behalf of the MNR. Bill is quick to point out that David Flowers, the area extension biologist is responsible for collecting much of the data which went towards outlining regulations in our area. "He basically organized the meetings, as he's the district contact for the regional regulations. Dave worked with other districts, and head office in Peterborough to insure consistency between districts."

"New regulations have made the fishing zones larger, so that some regulations apply for anglers who may want to fish in a larger area. There are also fewer regulations. The new regulations make it more consistent for anglers

In our ever-changing world, it seems that regulations, in one form or another are always in constant flux. And so it is in the world of sport fishing, as it applies to citizens of, and visitors to the Highlands. The 2008-2009 edition of *Fishing Ontario*, put out by the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR), has many new regulations anglers who wish to fish in County should be aware of.

who want to fish around the Muskokas, the Haliburton Highlands, and around Bancroft, for instance. Our region is zone 15, but the regulations are now pretty much consistent around all of Central Ontario.

"We had public meetings at the fish hatchery," Bill continues, "regarding the changes to the regulations. These meetings were well attended, and the people attending had significant impact on the new regulations, specifically the Walleye/Pickrel-that was the hot one. People felt that some of the proposed new regulations were too restrictive, so they suggested the regulations that we eventually went with. It still allows a reasonable cutback limit (4), while allowing anglers to take home a trophy fish."

Bill Hutson refers frequently to the new *Fishing Ontario* handbook for exactitudes, as they relate to our area. As the handbook is very detailed, Bill suggests that anglers pick up a copy, and familiarize themselves with regulations in the lakes that they will be fishing.

Licences Required: You need a licence to fish in Haliburton County.

The Standard Licence fee is \$23.79/yr, and \$9.91 for a day licence

The Conservation Licence fee, (with a reduced catch limit), is \$ 13.87/yr and \$9.91 for a day licence.

Walleye/Pickrel

New regulations apply to Lakes Kashagawigamog, Maple, Grass, Green, and Cranberry, to name just a few.

The New Season runs from May 17 to March 15.

Limits: For a standard licence it's 4 per person with only 1 fish allowed to be taken bigger than 46 cm, or 18.1 inches. With a conservation licence the limit is one, with the same size restrictions as the standard licence.

Brook Trout/Lake Trout

The New Season: There are added lakes in which "brookies" may now be caught, with approximately 90 lakes open all year. Check the guide on page 69 for the specific lake you're interested in fishing.

There are approximately 65 lakes which are now open all year for Lake Trout. Check on page 70 of the new guide for these lakes. Lakes that are listed as exceptions are on pages 70-75. If a lake is not listed, it's probably listed under *Standard Seasons*.

Limits: On Brook trout for a standard licence it's 5 ; for a conservation licence it's 2. There is no size limitation. For Lake Trout fishing with a standard licence the limit is 2, and with a conservation licence it's 1. Size limitations vary with the lake, so check the booklet carefully.

Bass:

The New Season: The opening of the season has now been standardized to the fourth Saturday in June. This year the season opens on June 28th, and runs through to November 30th.

Limits: With a standard licence 6, and with a conservation licence 2. There are

no size limitations.

Muskie:

The New Season: Starts on the first Saturday in June, and goes through to Dec 15.

Limits: With a standard licence you can catch one (1), and it must be over 91 cm, or 36 inches. You are not allowed to catch any Muskie with a conservation licence.

Pike:

The New Season: 1st Saturday in May, to March 31 of following yr.

Limits: With a standard licence 6, and with a conservation licence 2. There are no size restrictions

Perch: Open all year, limit 50

Crappie: Open all year, limit 30

Sunfish: Open all year, limit 50

Whitefish: Open all year, limit 12

Channel Cat Fish: Open all year, limit 12

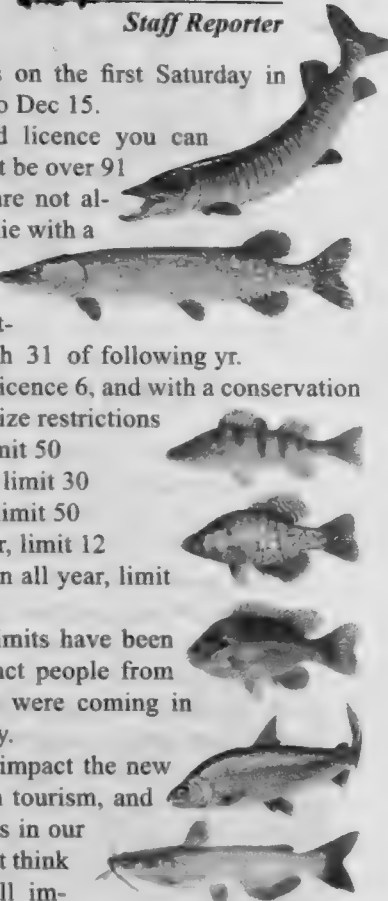
Some of these new limits have been put in place to counteract people from outside the county who were coming in and fishing commercially.

As to what, if any impact the new regulations will have on tourism, and tourism-based industries in our county, Bill said: "I don't think the new regulations will impact on fishing tourism at all. If there is any change it's likely to improve things, especially in winter with some of the new, year-round openings."

But, the regulatory beat goes on. "Over the next 3 years, starting this spring, there's to be a major fisheries assessment throughout Central Ontario to monitor the new regulations and to see how they're working," says Bill. "There will be the establishment of a local fishing advisory council which will provide local information to the MNR in order to assist them in fisheries management objectives."

So, the next time you're about to dig into a meal of a locally caught piscine delicacy, just think about all the regulatory management hours that have gone into making that fish available. It's sure to make the meal go down more smoothly. On the other hand, you can achieve the same peace of mind with an accompanying glass of wine.

The 2008-2009 *Fishing Ontario* handbook is available at the MNR office 12698, Highway 35, in Minden. The office hours are from 8:30-4:30 Monday through Friday. You can telephone the MNR at (705) 286-1521. The handbook is also available at Minden Live Bait, Outdoors Plus in Haliburton, and Gone Fishin' which is located on Kenisis Lake Rd.



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Red Hawks Drop Close Encounter 1-0

Semi Final Series Moves to Peterborough

Terrance Gavan
Sports Editor

The door opened with a nudge. In a wink it slammed shut.

With a thump.
And a sigh that drifted palpably to the rafters.

In playoff hockey, the tiniest breach in security often makes the difference.

Haliburton High Red Hawks found themselves staring at a golden opportunity early in the first frame of their semi-final AA tilt against the visiting Adam Scott Lions.

A Lions penalty assessed at 1:35 of the opening period set fans on the edge of their seats at Dysart Arena last Monday night as the Red Hawk power play girded for action.

But that anticipation was rudely interrupted when Lions forward Curtis Wing gobbled up an errant pass in the neutral



Adam Scott was assessed a two minute minor for crosschecking with two minutes remaining.

The Red Hawks mounted an all out assault in the early seconds of the power play.

Two crease-side pileups and a few solid shots from the point fell just shy of crossing the line. Sachs was pulled in favor of the extra attacker, but even that six-on-four advantage was stymied as the final seconds ticked away to certainty.

Yake summed it up succinctly as the players slowly filed out of the dressing room on Monday night.

"It's simple... we have to go there and win on Wednesday."

Game time at the Evinrude Arena is slated for 3 PM on Wednesday afternoon.

Overtime Hits: There were a lot of 747 wide bodies filling up every nook and cranny of available ice surface at Dysart Arena last Monday evening. However, the player of the game was Adam Scott's diminutive Curtis Wing. The feisty five-foot-eight Wing scored the only goal in the contest, but truly, it was

his inspired play on the penalty-killing unit that made him the game's first star. His unassisted shorthanded tally was the shining moment, but his workmanlike play at both ends justly placed his indelible footprint on the template of what proved to be one of the most exciting contests of the season.

The Red Hawks entered the semi-final round of High School AA playoffs on the strength of another very exciting 3-2 win against Lakefield last Thursday at the Dysart Arena.



zone. Wing drifted in unfettered and unmolested and cranked a nimble shorthanded tally past Haliburton crease buff Ian Sachs. The unassisted goal at 2:41 of the first frame held up and proved to be the winner in a game that featured furious end-to-end rallies, several post-clangers and very few stoppages.

The 1-0 loss to the Lions means that the Red Hawks will need a win in Peterborough on Wednesday at Evinrude Arena. In an interesting semi-final playoff format, the teams play a two game home-at-home series. The Lions gained two points for the win here on Monday and now only need a tie to win the series. The must win game is slated for 3 pm on Wednesday. Should the Red Hawks manage a win in regulation, the series then goes to a sudden death 10-minute overtime period.

If that doesn't produce a result, the two teams will move on to a shootout.

Haliburton co-coaches Gary Brohman and Ron Yake had nothing but praise for their charges after the game.

"Well, we came on very strong in the third period," said a still smiling Brohman in the corridor after the game.

"We played a very good game," Yake concurred. "We had one mistake in the first period, but the guys played really hard... we just couldn't put the puck in the net."

The Red Hawks regular season tilt against the Lions was played out along the same lines with Adam Scott coming out on the front end of a 2-1 contest.

"These two teams are very equally matched and it was a great game to watch," added Yake, who is very optimistic about his club's chances Wednesday in Peterborough.

"Look, we had our chances tonight, and we hit a post in the third that could have made the difference," said Yake.

"Whether we won or lost tonight, we still would have to travel there on Wednesday and play another game," said Brohman. "The only difference is that we need a win on Wednesday."

The glass remains half full until someone gets thirsty. The question that remains to be answered on Wednesday? Who's coming to the Evinrude Arena on Wednesday with the driest chops?

In this format the tie now goes to the home team, and they also have home ice advantage.

But both coaches still remain optimistic, knowing that if their two big lines get on a roll they are capable of putting a lot of rubber into twine.

"We played a great game tonight, but the puck wasn't dropping," said Yake.

Indeed, the frustration was exacerbated and played out in bas-relief after a late penalty call in the third frame.

A close call for the Red Hawks Goalie. Believe it or not, the puck behind the goalie didn't make it into the net.

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Haliburton County Unveils a New Life Saving Program

Dan Schell

County Voice

"This program will save lives all over the county."

Warden Eleanor Harrison

Residents of Haliburton County can now feel safer with the addition of public access defibrillators in a majority of the County's public facilities. On February 21st, Haliburton County Emergency Measures Service (EMS) along with the Heart and Stroke Foundation announced the successful installation and implementation of 23 brand new automated external defibrillators in a number of the County's public facilities.

Pat Kennedy, Director of EMS for Haliburton County, headed the successful campaign for to make Haliburton the first County in Ontario to have public access defibrillators fully functional throughout all of its townships.

"This is very exciting,"

said Warden Eleanor Harrison of the project, "This program will save lives all over the County." Harrison could not believe how quickly the EMS managed to implement the program: Kennedy started researching it for Council in October of 2006.

Due to the strong backing from County Council, along with support from the Heart and Stroke Foundation, the program rapidly gained momentum.

"It all started with a \$3 million grant from the Ontario Ministry of Health and Promotion, followed by \$1 million from The Frank Cowan Foundation," explained Tyler Moon, Community Mission Specialist from the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

From there, the "Restart a Heart, Restart a Life" campaign for the Heart and Stroke Foundation took new life, and Kennedy immediately applied for financial assistance for the County's public access defibrillator system. "We decided to go for the gusto," said Kennedy who was excited to hear that 21 sites were offered to the program here in Haliburton.

With the necessary funding and support then solidified, Kennedy and Larry Blanchard, Head of Quality Assurance for Haliburton County EMS, had the task of putting these units into a number of different public facilities throughout the County. The new program also needed new operational policies for the equipment, and all employees in the public buildings had to be trained, mainly by Kennedy and Blanchard. "We had to do it all on the go," said Kennedy.

With 23 sites now complete at across the County, the organizers couldn't be more thrilled about the safety this offers. Blanchard knew as soon as he saw the defibrillators for the first time that this was a project he wanted in the County. "The rule of thumb I have always used is my

daughter," said Blanchard about the need for defibrillators in Haliburton County, "whatever I can do for to make life here better for her, I will do."

Blanchard, who has been in charge of training says it has been an easy learning process for all involved. He cites the positive impact on the community that these defibrillators have are motivating all those who are training to use the machines. "It is the motivation that people have to make it that much better that helps them learn," described Blanchard.

Phase two of this program will put an additional 11 defibrillators in new sites across the County. According to Kennedy some of the sites proposed are very remote and might not pass through the application process, but he'll find out the results in a couple of weeks.

According to Warden Harrison, the County is still in full support of the program and is anticipating the results of the application process for the new sites. Though maintenance fees for the program rose to around \$20,000, Harrison said that the County will find a way to support it. "If the county has to come up with the money, we would have the money for the program," said Harrison.



Tyler Moon, Warden Eleanor Harrison and EMS Director Pat Kennedy



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When We Were Young... Program Receives Government Funding

"I couldn't
believe
they didn't
even have
hydro."

Fay Vajda



President of Community Care Annette Richardson, New Horizons Director Shelly King & MP Barry Devolin

The When We Were Young project in Wilberforce was visited by Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock MP Barry Devolin last Friday to present the program with government funding of \$18,300 under the New Horizons for Seniors Program.

The New Horizons for Seniors Program is a federally-funded program that funds projects across Canada to encourage senior citizens to take a leading role in their communities. The program has currently funded over 2,600 projects across the country.

For the seniors in Wilberforce, the When We Were Young project has allowed them to be able to connect with the youth in the area. The project pairs Wilberforce youth with seniors who have volunteered their time to tell stories of their past to a new generation. The students then work to convey their stories in an illustrated storybook as well as developing a creative performance to be presented using puppets, masks, oral storytelling or a one-act play.

Shelley King, Coordinator of the When We Were Young project, was thrilled to hear of the funding that was announced by Devolin today because of the success that this program has already seen. "Relationships develop," explained King, "both generations are getting things out of the program and are benefitting and learning from each other."

Annette Richardson, President of Community Care: Haliburton County has seen the positive responses from both the students and the seniors involved with this innovative project. "It's been a positive reaction," said Richardson, "It is just nice to see the young and the old together in this way. Just by walking by, you can see the mentorship between the seniors and the students happening."

For Ken Sanderson, a senior volunteer of the When We Were Young project, it is a great chance to get to share his stories with a student he was paired with. Sanderson is sharing his story of his journey to Toronto as a child from Haliburton County to see the British Royal Family in person. The journey was long, but Sanderson remembers parts of the trip so well, "The whole class was crammed into a cattle truck and forced to stand on our way just to get to Lindsay," recalled Sanderson with a smile on his face.

For Fay Vajda, a 12 year old student from Wilberforce Public School, to listen to Sanderson talk about his trip to see the Royal Family in Toronto and other details of his past was an incredible experience. "I couldn't believe they didn't even have hydro," said Vajda as she continued to illustrate a part of Sanderson's life with watercolour paint.

Devolin was impressed with the entire project. "For the students, it is a great way to learn how to put someone's story on paper," he said. "For the seniors, it is an opportunity to go down memory lane."

For Devolin, the When We Were Young project is a great opportunity to connect two generations that are rarely given the chance to understand each other. "When I was a kid, adults were just old people," said Devolin, "Anything that helps kids understand seniors better is going to be a benefit."

The stories that are currently being written and illustrated by the youth of Wilberforce will be compiled into an anthology of everyone's stories, and the creative performances will take place on May 2nd at the Lloyd Watson Community Centre.

Our First SCOOP Winner....

Joe Burroughs of Harcourt was the first winner of the Voice "Scoop" contest. Joe wins \$100 cash for sending us pictures of a fire in progress - the childhood house of Voice Publisher Brett Irvine.

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Going Through 08' in Leaps and Bounds

Find out why we have an extra day this month and when it'll happen again

Mark Arike
Staff Reporter

It's an occurrence that only happens once every four years. We're even getting an extra day in the month of February because of it.

This shift in time that we are now in is known as a 'Leap year' and the reason it happens is because we actually don't have 365 days in a year as some people may think. It actually takes 365 days, five hours, 48 minutes and 46 seconds for the Earth to orbit the Sun, according to the bigsiteofamazingfacts.com. The site goes on to say that the extra time is made up at the end of February, with the exception of years that cannot be divided evenly by 100. However, if that year can be divided by 400, the additional day is added.

We here at The Voice have compiled a list of interesting tidbits that tell you, the readers, about the lore and hard facts surrounding this momentous time we won't see come around again until 2012. Enjoy!



- In 1288, a Scottish law was passed that allowed women to propose marriage on Feb. 29 only.

- Romans were the first ones to create a leap year. They added a day to their calendar - known as the Julian calendar named after Julius Caesar - every four years.

- By the 16th century, there was an accumulated discrepancy of days since the day of Julius Caesar. This created a problem when determining dates for holy days such as Easter, which was calculated using the vernal equinox.

- Pope Gregory the 13th addressed the problem by creating the Gregorian calendar.

Under his decision, a leap year would take place every four years unless it was a year divisible by 400.

- The year 1900 was not a Leap year and neither will the year 2100.

- Italy, Portugal, Spain and parts of Germany all quickly adopted the Gregorian calendar. The change caused riots because tenants thought that their landlords would try and cheat them because of the shortened month.

- The rest of the Christian world would go on to adopt the Gregorian calendar over the next few centuries.

- On Feb. 29, 1984, Pierre Trudeau announced that he was stepping down as Liberal leader and prime minister.

- People born on Feb. 29 are known as "leapers."

Generally, they celebrate their birthdays on Feb. 28 or March 1 in non-leap years.

- Approximately one person in 1,461 was born on Feb. 29, meaning there are about 4 million of these people in the world.

- In 1988, the border town of Anthony, Texas/New Mexico celebrated the first World Wide Leap Year Festival.

There are approximately 1 in 1,461 people born on February 29, meaning there are approximately 4 million of these people in the world.

- If you were born on Feb. 29, 1982, you would precisely be 22 years and six leap days old on Feb. 29, 2004.

Technically, you have been alive for 22 years, but have only had five birthdays before Feb. 29, 2004!

- No one knows for sure why it is called a 'Leap year.'

Some historians say that during a Leap year the Time God has to record one extra jump or leap, hence the name.

Another view is that in a normal year a date falls on a day succeeding that on which it fell the previous year. After the

Leap year, it actually 'leaps over' the date being separated by two days instead of one.

- Europeans call it "a year of the maiden."

It is believed that any unmarried girl,

who proposes in a Leap year, will not be rejected without the disappointment being soothed with a gift. English, French and Italian youth followed this custom of offering gifts up until the mid 19th century.

Celebrities/People of Interest Birthdays on Feb. 29

- American actor Alex Rocco born on Feb. 29, 1936.

- Italian born actor Antonio Sabato Jr. on Feb. 29, 1972.

- Bryce Paup, former NFL star born on Feb. 29, 1968.

- The late American singer, actress and television personality, Dinah Shore born on Feb. 29, 1916.

- Former NASA astronaut, Jack R. Lousma born on Feb. 29, 1936.

- Classic, French actress Michele Morgan born on Feb. 29.

- Late American movie director, William A. Wellman, born on February 29, 1896.

- American film and television star, Dennis Farina born on Feb. 29, 1944.

- Hip-hop artist Ja Rule, born on Feb. 29, 1976.

- Late big band leader, James "Jimmy" Dorsey born on Feb. 29, 1904.

Haliburton Students Enjoy "Megaconference" With The World !

J. Douglas Hodgson went global last Thursday as they took part in a world-wide conference from the comfort of their own library. Kristie Leach's Grade 7/8 French Immersion class represented Haliburton in the 5th annual Megaconference Jr., a conference that utilizes the latest in video conferencing technology to connect students all over the world.

Megaconference Jr. is an annual event put on by a volunteer team of technologists, students, teachers and staff of different schools from all over the world. For twelve hours, the students involved get an opportunity to learn along side 216 other schools.

Leach said she heard about the opportunity at a recent conference she went to on the topic of video conferencing in the teaching profession. "They said they were still looking for interactive classes, and I jumped on the chance," explained Leach who immediately set her class up to be a part of this global event.

As a part of this conference, Leach's class was able to participate in a number of different activities with students from countries all over the world including Ireland, Croatia and Australia.

The main event of the day was a trivia competition they participated in titled "Mad Science Monarch Jeopardy." The students in Haliburton faced off against students from Pittsburgh, PA in a game show hosted by another school in Brooklyn Park, MN based on questions about the monarch butterfly.

Though the class did not win the event, it was clear that all the students were enjoying this unique experience to connect with other kids their own age from other cultures. Megan LaPierre, a student in Leach's class, was not letting the jeopardy loss get her down about the event. "Even though we lost, it was still fun interacting with other schools," said LaPierre, "It would be cool to

own the equipment to do this all the time."

Brigitta Hicks said that she was looking forward to the Café Event, which is a chance for all the schools involved with the conference to interact with each other through a number of different events. Hicks said that she was excited to talk to other students from around the world, but one thing was on her mind. "I want to win prizes," said Hicks.

Students got to take part in events including a virtual tour of the Royal Botanical Gardens in Hamilton, ON and having a conversation with another French Immersion class from Minnesota.

A highlight for a lot of the students was hearing all the different accents that students have. "They were talking to a person from Kentucky and they couldn't believe that actually was the person's voice," said Leach. Students also got a chance to learn more about some of the countries that were represented at this conference through student-

developed presentations on their hometowns and the cultures they live in.

From the sounds of it, students at J.D. Hodgson will be taking part in this conference in the future. Leach said that her class next year will hopefully take a larger role in the event. "Next time, we hope that we will get to present Haliburton to the world," said Leach.



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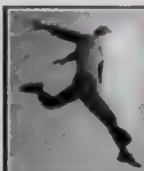
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Deals To Leap About!!

Yoga Ed: Teaching the Teachers

Stephen Patrick
Editor

Julie Sorichetti has absolutely no doubts: "being a Yoga Ed Instructor and Trainer has changed my life in an incredibly positive way – as a mother, partner, and daughter – and I'm determined to pass along those benefits to other teachers who believe in Yoga for people of all ages, particularly our children."

Julie is a teacher of teachers and a Certified Yoga Ed Instructor, a Kripalu Instructor and a Kripalu Danskinetics Certified Instructor. This journey began when she was pregnant with her first child some 12 years ago: "I had serious lower back troubles during that pregnancy and because I'd had some experience with yoga as a child, I thought it might help me again. It made a profound difference to my condition, so I decided to pursue it as an ongoing part of my life. At the time I was also a professional youth care worker in group homes in downtown Oshawa. I saw how many children with behavioural issues were being medicated for just about everything, particularly hyperactivity issues. And I began to believe that yoga could be used in both group home settings and in regular classrooms as an aid to both physical fitness and emotional stability."

Within just a few years Julie's dedication and determination resulted in her Certification as a yoga instructor at the world famous Kripalu Center for Yoga and Health in Massachusetts in the U.S. in 2003. Soon she was conducting yoga classes for both children and adults – but her first love was always yoga for children. In 2004 she met up with two



truly inspirational women, Tara Guber and Leah Kalish, who had just created an organization in California, called, simply, Yoga Ed. Its mission was equally simple: to train experienced yoga instructors to train school teachers across North America. "Yoga Ed develops health/wellness programs and materials that utilize the physiological, emotional and educational benefits of yoga and creative play, and



Julie Sorichetti

prevent our nation from becoming populated with an entire generation of unhealthy adults. Yoga Ed designs health and wellness program materials based on the psychological, emotional and educational benefits of yoga and creative play for teachers, parents, and communities around the world. We must congratulate Tara Guber and Yoga Ed for being pioneers in the field of mind-body health for children."

Julie says that the experience working with Yoga Ed has provided her with "the final tools I needed in my tool box to realize my dream of providing teacher and student education across the country." Julie has so far taught many teachers across Canada and the US, including in the Esalen Institute in California. She's now certified to teach K-12 programs, for both teachers and children.

Julie lives in Haliburton with her partner Kirk Cooper: she has three children, Ravenna (11), Nick (9), and Edie (8): they join Kirk's two sons Ethan (9), and Kyle (7), in what must be a pretty active household! Julie has taught Yoga Ed's Tools for Teachers workshops all over the country, including at Toronto's City Hall and Queen's Park. Last year she was nominated and won a Health for Life Taking Action! Award, a program sponsored by Health Canada and local Health Units. "I was nominated for my implementation of the Yoga Ed program and was chosen because they truly believe Yoga Ed makes a real difference."

One of Julie's goals is to convince local Highland Storm hockey coaches to include yoga training sessions as part of the youngster's fitness routines. "There is resistance, for sure, but also some understanding that yoga is truly beneficial to athletes. We have three hockey playing boys between us, and this fall Ethan participated with me in an

"What We Know For Certain Is That It Works!"

distributes them to children, teachers and parents through schools and communities nationwide."

Last year Deepak Chopra, MD, the alternative medicine guru whose books and programs have acquired a world-wide following, in nominating Yoga Ed for a Vanity Fair Hall of Fame award, commented that "America is facing a crisis with its youngsters, an epidemic of childhood obesity, teenage depression, and attention-deficit disorders. Pharmacological approaches offer limited benefits with numerous side effects. The simple and effective tools offered by Yoga Ed ... could

adult yoga class just hours before one of his games: he had the best game of his life later that day! And it's gradually sinking in that some famous NHLers like the Senators' Daniel Alfredsson are huge yoga fans and practitioners."

In addition to teaching her Yoga Ed classes across the country, Julie also offers Corporate and Personal Retreats at the Highland Retreat, the spacious log home she shares with Kirk on Billings Lake just north of Gooderham. "We offer personal and professional life balance workshops, corporate team building events, even product development sessions. It's a wonderful setting for contemplation, meditation, and finding that essential balance."

In her quest to have see yoga become part of our children's regular education, Julie Sorichetti has faced some opposition from those who see yoga as some kind of foreign threat, or as a kind of religion, or worse, some kind of cult. Despite the enormous growth in yoga practice (and business) over the last decade, superstitions persist. But Julie points out that "Yoga Ed is not like adult yoga, with its emphasis on meditation and Sanskrit. And we are happy to show parents the terrific results we have with kids who take our courses – they're in better shape, emotionally, behaviourally, and physically – no question about it." And no question that yoga is becoming mainstream with a vengeance: Americans last year spent some \$2.95 billion on yoga classes, equipment, clothing, holidays and videos with almost 17 million practising the ancient art of postures,



breathing and meditation.

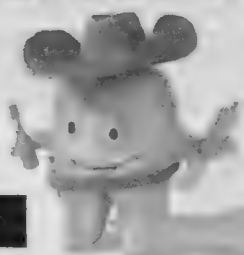
"What we know for sure is that it works," says Julie, as she prepares for another trek across the country training teachers in Calgary, BC and California. "I want to get as many teachers in front of as many children as possible, teaching the kids about their bodies and how to control their reactions and emotions. It's a really exciting challenge and a life-time goal for me."

One of Julie's goals is to convince local Highland Storm hockey coaches to include yoga training sessions as part of the youngster's fitness routines.

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The Highlands To Have Its Own Special Needs Hockey Team

George Farrell
County Voice



Jason Hollowell - Hockey Player

Special Needs hockey teams from Toronto and Orangeville will play in a showcase tournament at the Wilberforce Arena this Saturday March 1st from 10 AM to 2 PM. The showcase is the brainchild of Minden Hills resident John Kellett, and the aim is to show our communities what Special Needs hockey is all about, in advance of the Highlands having its own team for next season. "Right now I'm in the process of starting a special needs hockey program in Minden for kids and adults who have a developmental disability. This program will be modeled after the Grandravine Tornadoes organization which operates out of Downsview Ontario," says Kellett. Grandravine is part of a

Showcase Tournament This Weekend At Wilberforce Arena

league that has 25 teams in Canada, the U.S., and England.

John Kellett still takes son Jason down to Toronto every other Saturday, so that he can play with the Grandravine team who he has been playing for since 2000. "Jason is autistic," says Kellett, "and he likes his routine. He loves his trips down for his hockey, but he's agreed to retire from Grandravine to be a part of our new program in Minden.

"The opportunities that this league provides are exceptional," Kellett adds. "By participating, your son or daughter will be given the opportunity to learn to skate, play hockey, and learn teamwork, and it will provide them with the chance for personal development through improved social skills. The program is not about winning or losing. The goal of this league is to allow these special individuals to participate in an activity that is not usually available through standard leagues."

The Grandravine team which will be coming to Wilberforce was started by Patrick V. Flick in 1980, with just 2 players. In 1994 they traveled to St Louis Missouri for the first ever international special hockey tournament. There has been an international hockey tournament every year since, with games alternating between Canada and the U.S. In 2006 the tournament, now sanctioned by Special Hockey International, was held in London England, making it a truly international event.

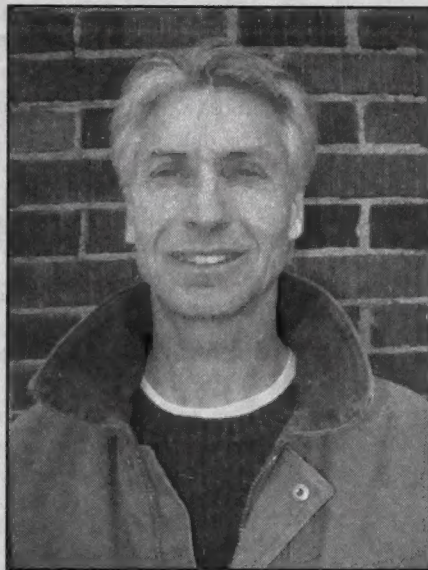
"We will be part of this league," Kellett states emphatically. "We're going ahead regardless, and we'll be up and running next season. We're looking to recruit from the area encompassing Bancroft, Fenelon Falls, and up to Huntsville, because the closest team, other than Toronto, is in North Bay."

John is no stranger to special needs sports programs. He took over the coaching duties of the Special Olympics bowling and curling programs in 2007. "We'd like 12 or more players for our hockey team," he says. "There's no real age limit. It's for both kids and for adults."

This weekend's tournament will be the first of what will become an annual event to be held in Minden. The team will operate out of the Minden arena, but this weekend's tournament is being held in Wilberforce, because the ice in Minden was already booked.

John Kellett is setting up his special hockey team as a nonprofit program, which will be relying on donations, sponsors and volunteers. So far Hawk River Construction, Heads Up Hairstyling and the Storeroom have come on board as sponsors for the team. If you would like to help out John Kellett can be reached at (705) 286-2183 or cell (705) 754-5891.

In the meantime, head out to Wilberforce this Saturday, to watch some inspirational – and fun – hockey.



John Kellett - Tournament Organizer

Laurie Scott Taking Pen To Paper To Save Lord's Prayer



Laurie Scott, MPP for Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock is urging Dalton McGuinty to respect the traditions of the Ontario Legislature by leaving the recitation of the Lord's Prayer as part of its daily proceedings.

"Ontario is a province of deep cultural roots and it is important that we respect and maintain the traditions and history of the Ontario Legislature. Part of that tradition is keeping the Lord's Prayer," said Scott. "The focus should be on building upon tradition rather than obscuring it."

Scott made the comments following a letter issued yesterday by Dalton McGuinty calling for the province to 'move beyond' the recitation of the Lord's Prayer in the Legislature. Scott also called on McGuinty to put his focus towards the important issues facing the people of Ontario.

"I have not heard one resident of Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock oppose the Lord's Prayer," added Scott. "The people of this riding care more about making sure they have good paying jobs, a health care system that works, successful farms and small businesses, and an education system that helps provide our kids with the skills and good start they need."

Scott added an all-party committee should review a range of reforms for the operations of the Ontario Legislature, and any changes should respect the tradition and history of Ontario.

A petition to maintain the Lord's Prayer is also available at Scott's constituency office in Lindsay or her website at www.lauriescottmpp.com

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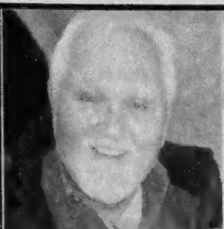
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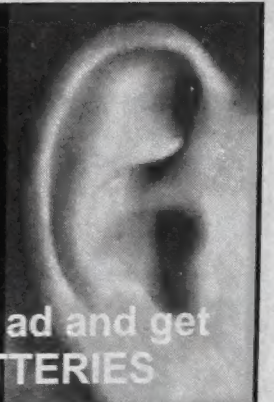
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Ancient Creations Re-Created by Residents

The art form of labyrinth building provides enjoyment and meditative qualities to those who build them

Mark Arike

Staff Reporter

They are built all over the world and come in several different designs and sizes. In fact, the name of the art form originated in ancient Greece. On Friday, Feb. 22, design elements, construction tips and the benefits to building labyrinths were illustrated at the Rails End Gallery & Arts Centre in Haliburton.

Laurie Jones, Executive Director of the Rails End Gallery, explained to the small group about how to go about building the structures in different conditions, using various tools and ingredients that would suit their particular vision. Jones provided sketched examples of the unicursal, or single line pathways which are often used for group rituals and private meditation purposes. Before taking her participants outside to build small labyrinths in the snow, she outlined how one could be built by using a piece of paper and a large quantity of pepper.

"You have to change your thinking entirely when you're building one in the snow," said Jones. "You could get confused with the paths because of your footprints."

Labyrinths are formed with a few basic guidelines, but are subject to the creative ideas of each individual builder. Each one contains an entry point, which is also used as the exit, and walkers are kept on the path to the centre by the surrounding walls. Once reaching the centre point, you have gone half the distance. Then it is time to turn around and walk on back out through the original path that you came in. The journey is supposed to also

enhance right-brain activity.

"My mom read about the workshops," said Joyce McDonald on how she became first interested. "I wanted to build a labyrinth in my backyard but didn't know where to start," she said.

Minutes before heading out into the blustery cold winter weather, Jones gave some helpful tips to the participants.

"You're going to use long sticks to scratch the surface of the snow lightly. You'll trace where you want your walls to be. It sounds easy, but it took a long time to come to this. Then, scuff the path with your big boots and what you've done is walked in this pattern," said Jones, while pointing at the preliminary sketches.

Once completing their outdoor labyrinths, the students were more than satisfied with what they had come up with.

"I want to do one in my backyard now - I'm excited to do one," exclaimed McDonald, who was a building partner with Sue Shikaze.

"You think you could build one on your own now?" said Shikaze in jest to McDonald.

"I think I could!" she replied.

"For people, I think it's a nice way to get some easy walking in and not go anywhere," said Shikaze, who advocates that people lead a healthy, active lifestyle. "It's good to encourage people to do something active in the winter."

"The labyrinth has its own energy," said participant Lindsey Coates. She also sees the fun-factor that can be brought into the equation when families and children help to build one.

"They could decorate it and then you could see if better.

There are all kinds of things that you could do to make it a fun project as well," said Coates.

Jones, as an artist herself, has a long-running history with labyrinths.

"I am involved with something that happens every other year on Toronto Island called Rogue Wave," she began. "A year before 2000, a close friend of mine who was a runner had died. I'm not a runner, but there's a lot of paths on the island that you run on." In losing such a close friend, Jones made it a goal of hers to create something in her memory.

"I wanted to create a path that people would walk, that was not a traditional path, but was linked to her. For me, it was like this action was linked to her, so that is what got me going."

She then took it upon herself to go through a testing phase to see what would and wouldn't work best.

"I took string and rope, laid it down, tried to pass it through grass, talked to people about it." Finally, she came up with a brilliant idea that would work for her which involved tying string around trees to create the walking path. When it came down close to crunch time for the launch day of the event, Jones admitted that she hadn't even started on the construction.

"The place I wanted to do it was where a tree is beside a church on the island. The priest of the church came up to me and gave me this book and said, 'I think you need to read this book,' and it was about labyrinths," she recalls about the epic moment. That's when she made the realization that what she thought was a completely original idea of her own, was already an art form that had been in existence for thousands of years.

"I think it's real cool," she said of the artistic creations. "They capture people's imaginations."



Left to Right: Lindsey Coates, Sue Shikaze, Joyce McDonald & Laurie Jones

For Fire & Heat

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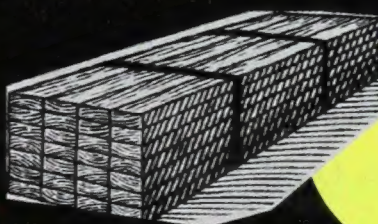
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DREAMS BECOME REALITY AT HOME

Dear Abby

by Abigail Van Buren

After Long Life Together Empty Nesters Drift Apart

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been married for 35 years. The first 30 were pretty much devoted to raising children.

Now that we are both retired and empty nesters, I realize just how focused our lives have been on family issues. While I have developed many interests, "Fred," has none besides solitary activities. He isn't interested in most of the things that I enjoy, but offers no alternatives. Consequently, I've learned to make social plans that do not include him.

I do spend a good deal of time at home with him, but I am feeling increasingly detached. I would like to have more of a life with Fred, but must I give up the relationships and activities that have provided a needed balance in my life in order to revive our marriage? -- MRS. COUCH POTATO

DEAR MRS. POTATO: And what's to guarantee that if you give up your friendships and activities that your marriage will be "revived"? Marriage is about compromise. Before this situation goes any further, you and Fred should talk to a counselor about the state of your union.

People who are anti-social may be extremely narrow in their range of interests, or they could be depressed. I'm advising you to find out now into which category your husband falls before you sever your social contacts.

DEAR ABBY: My 15-year-old daughter, "Amy," was recently dumped by text message, and I am extremely frustrated with how to address her tears and heartbreak. Text messaging and instant messaging seem to be the only ways that young people communicate these days. This young man took the coward's way out.

Amy and I have had several heated discussions about it, mostly ending with us agreeing to disagree. My perspective is, when two people are ready to end a relationship, they should face the other person and talk about the reasons why it isn't working. Hers is, "That's just the way we do things now." Any thoughts? -- KATHY IN SPIRIT LAKE, IOWA

DEAR KATHY: You are both right. Communication is a skill that people learn through practice. And I, too, am concerned that a generation of young people isn't learning to communicate face-to-face. It's almost as though there is a fear of intimacy, and the signals that people send through facial expression and gesture are being lost because of over-dependence on technology.

Although "that's the way we do things now" may be your daughter's perspective, my question to her would be, "Now that you know how terrible being dumped that way feels, would you do it to somebody else?"

DEAR ABBY: When someone sneezes multiple times, do I have to "bless them" after every sneeze, at the end of all sneezes or only after the first sneeze? -- BLESSED OUT IN MENOMONEE FALLS, WIS.

DEAR BLESSED OUT: It depends upon how superstitious you are. The custom of "blessing" a person who sneezes originated during the Middle Ages, when people believed that when someone sneezed their souls left their bodies for an instant. Saying, "God bless you" ensured that the soul would jump back in, rather than be "lost." If you're really superstitious, then you should utter the blessing every time someone sneezes.

However, today most people say it only once after the first sneeze.

WHAT'S UP DOC?

Carol Sanio D.V.M.

From the Minden Animal Hospital



Arthritis:

It is a joint effort!



Do you remember when your dog was still a bouncing puppy and he would spring into action at the clink of his dog leash or the toss of a ball or if you mentioned the W word? Do you remember enjoying extensive walks together through the woods (albeit with your ulterior motive to entice a long nap

out of him)?

As dog owners, we cherish these memories and yearn for our furry friends to live a long, comfortable life. It is however unfortunate that with dogs living longer and staying more active in their older years, arthritis has become one of the most common causes of pain in their later years.

The main symptom of arthritis is joint pain. Joint pain is seen in both active and sedentary dogs. Typically, owners of very active dogs notice the lameness and stiffness more often. You may be reassured to know that arthritic dogs can live a comfortable existence today with a little bit of knowledge on your part and some advice from your veterinarian. It will be a joint effort.

What is arthritis?

Arthritis is inflammation in a joint. Inflammation causes joint pain.

Dogs often do not show the pain they are in, so we, as owners, need to know how to identify it. In the wild, it is eat or be eaten so any illness, pain or weakness is well hidden. A dog walking on 3 legs has obvious pain but one that is limping slightly or slow to rise after resting or has trouble getting down to a sit, also has pain. They deserve pain relief.

The purpose of a joint, such as a knee or hip, is to act like a hydraulic shock absorber during motion. A joint is made up of two opposing boney surfaces each lined with cartilage, and the space in between is filled with a fluid, known as synovial fluid. The cartilage is made up of approximately 70% water, and the synovial fluid is made up of molecules that hold water. Together, the cartilage and the synovial fluid work to absorb the shock of the two opposing bones coming together. Joint pain is experienced when the cartilage or synovial fluid have diminished, resulting in bone on bone grinding causing inflammation, or arthritis.

Pain relief:

Pain is inevitable, suffering is an option. To relieve pain, we need to reduce inflammation and improve the shock absorbing capabilities of the joint by improving fluid levels in the joint fluid and cartilage.

Stay tuned next week we will go through products and techniques used to help relieve pain in our pets with arthritis. The old adage of "take an aspirin and call in the morning" is passé, as we have far safer and better products (nutraceuticals and pharmaceuticals) available now.

County Council Clarifications

Clarifications from last issue's reports from County Council

In regards to the new map presented by Bob Smith at the last council meeting, the map is the new tourism map and has nothing to do with the new 911 system. The new map's purpose is strictly for assisting visitors traveling within the county between attractions, events or just to other municipalities. The map is currently available at the County of Haliburton Information Centre located on Highway 35 in Minden.

Also, the new business website that was presented by Smith is not live and will not be accessible for viewing until a later date.

There is an update regarding

the public meeting on March 7th in regards to the changes to the Forest Conservation By-Law. The changes to be discussed do not impact the way the trees are cut, but include changes to headings and the organization within the by-law, changes to definitions, diameter changes in circumference measurements, previously omitted species of trees and a number of other legislative changes in regards to application forms. There has also been the addition of a clause recognizing good forestry practices in unusual circumstances like storm damage.

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Chamber Hosts Wanakita Fun Day

Tons of Winter Fun for All

The Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce hosted a great fun afternoon for the community at Camp Wanakita last Sunday and almost 100 people showed up for the various events.



Participants could choose from cross country skiing, snowshoeing, tobogganing (on the dreaded Cardiac Hill!), skating, broomball, or trying their hand at the low rope course. Chili and hot dogs were available at a nominal cost and this annual celebration of winter was enjoyed by all. The Chamber thanks all the staff at Camp Wanakita for all their help.



Photos By:
Lyn Winans

Earthweek: A Diary of the Planet

By Steve Newman



Missing Migrants

The coldest Chinese winter in decades, which has caused widespread misery to the human population since mid-January, also appears to be responsible for the disappearance of more than 100,000 migratory birds in the east of the country, according to state media. Luo Shengjin, deputy director of the Poyang Lake Nature Reserve in the eastern Jiangxi province, told Xinhua that about 200,000 wild birds had been there before the snow and freezing temperatures arrived last month, but officials had found only 40,000 since the weather began to ease last week. Luo said no mass deaths had been uncovered and the birds could have migrated elsewhere.

Locust Threat

A gathering swarm of desert locusts threatens to devour crops from the Saudi Peninsula and Horn of Africa southward to Kenya in the coming months, according to an advisory from the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. Immature locust swarms were reported east of the Rift Valley in Ethiopia and the southern Somali region. Experts warned that the insects could reach maturity and lay eggs before the March rainy season.

Tropical Cyclones

High winds and flash flooding from Cyclone Ivan pummeled the island of Madagascar, killing at least 11 people and leaving hundreds of others homeless. Catastrophic damage occurred on the tourist island of Sainte Marie.

Cyclone Nicholas brought beneficial rainfall to the northwestern tip of Australia without inflicting significant wind damage.

Vanishing Act

A new study by the Wildlife Conservation Society has found that jack rabbits living in and around Yellowstone National Park have apparently hopped into oblivion over the past few decades. Writing in the journal *Oryx*, lead author Joel Berger says that historical records show that while the white-tailed jack rabbits were abundant 130 years ago around Yellowstone and Grand Teton, no sightings have been confirmed in Yellowstone since 1991. Only three have been seen in Grand Teton since 1978. "It could be disease, extreme weather, predation or other factors," Dr. Berger wrote. He proposes reintroducing the species to restore the ecological processes that existed before the rabbits vanished.

Middle East Snow

A brutal winter storm brought heavy snow and blizzard conditions to much of the eastern Mediterranean, disrupting transportation from Greece to Israel, Lebanon and the Palestinian territories. The storm forced schools and businesses to shut down from Athens to Jerusalem. In Lebanon, heavy wet snow brought down power lines, leaving many villages and towns in darkness. The Beirut-Damascus mountain highway linking Lebanon with Syria and the rest of the Arab world was blocked by snow drifts.

Earthquakes

A powerful 7.4 magnitude temblor centered off quake-prone western Sumatra killed three people and seriously injured 25 others.

A 6.0 magnitude quake wrecked buildings and ruptured water and gas lines in northeastern Nevada. Shaking was also felt in Salt Lake City.

Earth movements were also felt in southern Greece, Arctic Norway's Svalbard archipelago and along the California-Mexico border.

Yellow Fever Outbreak

Seven cases of yellow fever have been confirmed in Paraguay in what the World Health Organization (WHO) says is the country's first outbreak in 34 years. The seven infections occurred in the San Pedro region, while four more suspected cases were discovered in the town of Lorenzo, near Paraguay's capital of Asuncion. Paraguayan Health Minister Oscar Martinez has requested urgent shipments of vaccine from neighboring countries, and from the WHO's International Coordinating Group on Vaccine Provision.

Fish Memory

An Australian teenager has busted the myth that goldfish have only a three-second memory, proving that they have mental capacities to learn and remember complex concepts and retain knowledge for at least six days. Fifteen-year-old Rory Stokes, from the Australian Science and Mathematics School in Adelaide, taught a small group of fish to swim to a beacon by establishing a memory connection between the beacon and food. After the initial three-week period, the beacon was removed from the feeding process. Six days later, the beacon was again placed in the water and it was noted the fish quickly swam to the beacon despite not seeing it for almost a week, showing they had remembered the association between food and the beacon. Stokes told reporters his findings prove it is cruel to keep fish in small tanks.

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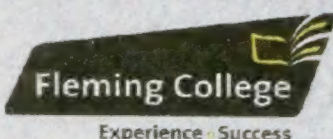
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